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Palestinian Affairs

PNC Decision on Peace Conference Praised

TA0310200191 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 28 Sep 91 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "A Wise Decision Amid Intense Darkness"]

[Text] In its session in Algeria, the Palestine National Council [PNC] welcomed the peace efforts and the peace conference. Following sharp discussions and arguments by the various factions, the PNC adopted historic decisions to participate in the peace conference on the Middle East. Perhaps those decisions are among the more difficult, if not the most difficult, ones in the history of the Palestinian cause, which has now come to a new turning point. Despite the complexity of this shift, the decisions are only the beginning of an arduous path of Palestinian-Israeli negotiations.

The first problems facing the agreement on Palestinian participation in the conference are Palestinian representation, the issue of Jerusalem, and a freeze on Israeli settlement in the occupied territories. Any of these issues might torpedo the peace conference. The peace process is a long and complicated operation. We should be ready to face setbacks as a result of the obstacles that Israel will raise to evade adherence to "the land for peace" principle. We have to realize that we are still at the beginning of a road filled with barbed wire and mines.

The fact that the Palestinians have chosen to embark on this experience does not mean that the Palestinian people have abandoned their aspirations for their legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination. There is no doubt, however, that ambiguity still pervades the peace process and the questions that were raised at the PNC still await answers. The question of Palestinian representation continues to preoccupy many observers, and the masses continue to view the issue of negotiations, peace, and the conference as more of a dream than a reality.

This pessimism is not surprising because there is no proof that Israel is ready to show any flexibility in its intransigent positions, whether on the question of Palestinian representation, Jerusalem, or settlements. The Palestinians are aware of the immense responsibility. They are going to the conference not out of conviction but because there are no alternatives. During the PNC session in Algeria, some of the Palestinian factions called for a return to the armed struggle and for opening the frontiers of Arab states for the launching of military operations, but, as everyone knows, those options became obsolete after the Arab states agreed on the peace conference and negotiations.

The Palestinian people welcome the decision by the PNC to participate in the peace conference, especially since our people have been living under occupation for about a quarter of a century. Our Palestinian masses received the news with a mixture of joy and bitterness. Our zeal for our cause, during these bad times filled with unfavorable reports and moves from all over the Arab homeland, dictates that the Palestinian leadership accept initiatives that were rejected on the national and pan-Arab levels.

The thing that provides exceptional significance to this Palestinian measure is that many of us feared that these decisions would lead to discord and fragmentation inside the PNC, thus undermining the PLO and its representation authority. The PNC managed to preserve national unity, and this in turn is a victory for the forces of moderation inside and outside the PNC. Our people inside the occupied territories hope that these results will constitute an opening toward a mass revival for rearranging the Palestinian house so that it will be able to confront the coming delicate and sensitive stage.

The significance of the Palestinian measure to participate in the peace conference stems from the fact that it comes at the height of preparations for the peace conference, through which the United States has committed itself to implement international legitimacy and settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, and its core—the Palestinian problem—on bases and standards compatible with the principles of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Despite the ambiguity enveloping Washington's statements about the future of the occupied territories, Washington has placed itself in such a position that the region's nations expect it to carry out many of the promises it has made. Our people are aware of the new developments and hope that they will lead to a settlement that secures their minimal national rights!

Decisions Put Israel, U.S. to 'Test'

TA0310210091 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 30 Sep 91 p 7

[Editorial: "The Palestinian Decisions and the U.S. Stance"]

[Text] International reaction to the decisions of the 20th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC], which proclaimed the Palestinian people's commitment to the peace option, is continuing. In a comment following the conclusion of the PNC's proceedings, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker welcomed the decisions by saying: "I am very pleased by the PNC vote in support of convening a Middle East peace conference."

We hope that Baker's remarks were based on a reading of all the decisions and that he has not chosen only a part of the final communique and ignored the other parts that affirmed the need for relying on international legitimacy, including Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and the commitment to implement them in such a way that would ensure a complete withdrawal from Arab and Palestinian lands, including holy Jerusalem, as well as the realization of the land for peace principle and the Palestinian people's national rights.

The PNC's welcome for the convocation of a peace conference in the region was linked to a series of principles, the most important of which are a halt to settlement activity;

the PLO's right to form the Palestinian delegation from inside and outside the occupied territories, including Jerusalem; and the need for a formula for the delegation's participation on an equal basis and in a manner that affirms its legality. The PNC also stressed the need to guarantee linkage between the stages of a settlement and to exclude separate solutions.

In dealing with Arab issues in general and the Palestinian problem in particular, the U.S. Administration has been accustomed to reading, hearing, and seeing what it believes is compatible with its own inclinations. Does Baker's welcome mean that he agrees with all the passages in the PNC's final communique relating to the peace conference? Or did he only welcome the phrase that said: "The PLO welcomed and dealt positively with the ongoing peace efforts, including the invitation by Presidents Bush and Gorbachev for convening a conference to resolve the conflict in the Middle East."

What is surprising is that although the U.S. secretary of state, at a news conference in Amman several days ago, announced his readiness to meet at any place in the world with the Palestinian figures who had met him in Jerusalem, yesterday he said that there are no plans for holding a meeting in Washington with the Palestinian figures. We do not yet know the motives and reasons behind this decision, which is incompatible with Baker's public statements, especially since it was reported that Israel had officially requested that Baker not receive the Palestinian figures in Washington in light of reports indicating that they had taken part in the PNC session.

In any event, the PNC decisions have put the U.S. Administration and the Israeli Government to a test whose results will show their real inclinations and intentions, particularly since the positions of all the Arab parties directly involved in the conflict have been put forward very clearly. The Israeli Government, headed by Yitzhaq Shamir, has responded by continuing settlement activity in the occupied territories and repeating its rejection of the land for peace principle.

The Palestinian move toward serious and active participation in the peace process is an extension of the historic decision adopted by the PNC in its 19th session. If the American tendencies are serious, the first step that Washington should take is the resumption of dialogue with the PLO and the proclamation of basic principles for laying the foundations of peace. As Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat said: "We have extended our hands for peace, and the ball now is in the other court—the U.S. Administration's and Israel's."

U.S. Said Not To Encourage PLO Moderates

PM0310154691 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 1 Oct 91 p 11

[Editorial: "U.S.-Palestinian Dialogue, and Why It Has Not Been Resumed"]

[Text] The United States has, through Secretary of State James Baker, welcomed the Palestine National Council [PNC] resolutions and seen them as positive resolutions that can boost the peace process in the region.

The Americans welcomed the PNC resolutions because they were very flexible and did not completely shut the door on the peace process and a regional conference, contrary to many expectations of an intransigent Palestinian position that would give Shamir's government a pretext for torpedoing the U.S. efforts.

The U.S. Government, however, only welcomed the resolutions. It did not make any move to translate this into practical steps such as a resumption of its dialogue with the PLO, removing the PLO from the terrorism list, allowing its officials—and, first and foremost, Yasir-'Arafat—to enter Washington, and removing their names from blacklists.

The PNC resolutions removed all obstacles to the resumption of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue at the highest level, especially the question of Abu-al-'Abbas' (Muhammad 'Abbas) membership in the PLO Executive Committee.

If the U.S. position on the discontinuation of the dialogue was genuine, then Abu-al-'Abbas' exit from the Executive Committee should meet U.S. conditions on that matter.

We are sure that Washington was not serious about its dialogue with the PLO. It sought pretexts and excuses for stopping the dialogue after Israel's rejection of Baker's five-point plan in 1989. It saw the commando landing operation carried out by Abu-al-'Abbas' group as a golden opportunity to do so. Had Washington been serious about dialogue, it would have raised its level and it would have granted the Palestinian president an entry visa to enable him to exercise his natural right to reply to the UN General Assembly and Security Council invitations and to address them.

In reply to a question about the extent of Washington's response to Abu-al-'Abbas' exit from the Executive Committee in relation to a resumption of the dialogue, the U.S. spokesman says that the dialogue will not be resumed because of the PLO's position on the Gulf war. This confirms our enduring doubts about the credibility of the U.S. attitude toward the PLO and the Palestinian people that it represents.

The PLO has done its utmost to confirm its desire to facilitate the peace process in the region, ranging from its acceptance of all international legitimate resolutions to its flexibility in dealing with the recent U.S. peace proposals. A continuation of these strange U.S. attitudes, however, would not encourage the continuation of this moderate tendency in PLO ranks. What is even more dangerous is that it would

expose that tendency and its advocates to more criticism and perhaps attack by other Palestinian groups both within and without the PLO framework—groups which see no benefit in the peace process and which urge a boycott of the expected conference because they do not trust Washington and its policy, which is opposed to a just settlement of the Palestinian question and which applies disgraceful double standards to international legitimacy and resolutions.

Fatah Movement's Nimr Salih Dead

NC0310163091 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] In Damascus, Fatah Movement-the Uprising has announced that Nimr Salih, alias Abu-Salih, a member of the movement's Central Committee, died at noon today from a heart attack.

Algeria

Interview With Ghozali on Election Prospects

PM0410102291 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 1 Oct 91 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali by Khayrallah Khayrallah in Algiers; date not given]

[Excerpts] [introductory passage omitted] [Khayrallah] Has an early presidential election been ruled out?

[Ghozali] We are now preparing for the legislative elections. President Chadli Bendjedid announced that the parliamentary elections would be followed by an early presidential election. As for setting a date for the presidential elections, this is up to the president. The president will do what is necessary with regard to continuing the reform process in accordance with the 1989 Constitution.

[Khayrallah] What about the legislative elections law announced by your government and the opposition's criticisms of it? How will you deal with these criticisms, especially with regard to the method of distributing constituencies and husbands' voting on behalf of their wives?

[Ghozali] There are political grounds for the distribution of constituencies. What we have tried to achieve is to eliminate the inequality that existed in the previous law (drawn up by the Mouloud Hamrouche government). The only way to achieve equality is to give the Algerians the opportunity to elect 350 deputies after making the country a single constituency. When the country is divided into constituencies, there is bound to be some inequality, so efforts must be made to limit inequality. To achieve this we have chosen very simple criteria to apply to everyone. These criteria are:

1. The rule that there should be a deputy for every 80,000 people.

2. In the south we have adopted the criterion that there should be a deputy for every 30,000 people because that area is deprived and very vast.

3. Every constituency that has a deputy in the present parliament retains its deputy, regardless of the number of citizens in it.

We have also proceeded from a fourth criterion, namely, the classification applied during the single party era. These are four criteria that can be the subject of a dialogue. They might be sound, and they might not. But the number of instances of inequality in the new law is not more than 12 or 15, whereas in the old law there were 215 exceptional cases. [passage omitted]

[Khayrallah] What about the two detained shaykhs, Abbassi Madani and Ali Belhaj?

[Ghozali] The judiciary right to the end ...

[Khayrallah] Which judiciary?

[Ghozali] The military judiciary at present.

[Khayrallah] It is reported in Algeria that leadership changes will be made in the Defense Ministry and senior military posts to make the Army more effective in the face of the "Islamic National Front." Is there any truth to this information, which is circulating among some Western diplomats?

[Ghozali] No changes in the Army. There will be no changes that are political in nature. If any changes do occur, they will be routine in nature. That is, just as some officers are retired every year, some officers are promoted.

[Khayrallah] One final question about the date of the legislative elections. Do you still want to hold them before the end of the year?

[Ghozali] The final date for the elections depends on the approval on the new law. Once the law has been passed by parliament the president of the republic will set the date. We do still hope that it will be before the end of the year. [passage omitted]

[Khayrallah] What about the debts?

[Ghozali] They are not great. They are estimated to total $25 billion. They are insignificant, compared with the Algerian economy's capability. But the policies pursued in the past to tackle the debts were dangerous because they were confined to tackling the debts by means of further debts. The innovative policy that this government has adopted is that debts can only be tackled by intrinsic energies; that is, by making these energies more effective.

[Khayrallah] What is the future of the National Liberation Front [FLN] party, which has ruled Algeria for the past 30 years?

[Ghozali] My government is independent from the parties, but I am still a member of the party's Central Committee. The FLN's future is still in the hand of the Front, which stands at a crossroads. I believe that the Front has an asset that I consider necessary in the present circumstances for consolidating the democratic process. However, in order for the Front to play this role, it must change its strategy. I cannot imagine a future for democracy in Algeria without the FLN, but at the same time, there is great opportunity for improving the Front's image and working methods and for building the party's strategy.

[Khayrallah] How do you explain the Algerian authorities' suppression of Algerian fundamentalists, while it encourages fundamentalists in the neighboring states such as Tunisia, to the extent that it has provided facilities to Rachid Ghannouchi?

[Ghozali] That is untrue. First, we have not suppressed the Islamic movement here. Besides, Algeria respects the other states and requests the brothers who belong to these states and who are present on its territory to respect its position. This is the only thing that we request from

those taking shelter here. It is not our policy to encourage or interfere with such matters. It is not in our tradition to do so.

Egypt

Foreign Minister on Peace Conference Details

TA0310144091 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Oct 91 p 2

[Report by Shmu'el Segev in New York]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with DAVAR yesterday, Egypt's Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa called on Israel to take no action against Faysal al-Husayni and Hannan 'Ashrawi even if they attended the PNC [Palestine National Council] conference in Algiers, because they were on a peace mission. "Israel should not," said Musa, "arrest al-Husayni, 'Ashrawi, or any other Palestinian leader, even if they conferred with PLO leaders in Algiers, because if it does, it will find no credible partners for negotiations on the Palestinian problem."

The Egyptian foreign minister also addressed other matters in the interview:

—The PNC resolutions show that the Palestinians have at last boarded the "train of peace," and they are now ready to participate actively in solving their problem. The Palestinians have been given a definite mandate to participate in the peace conference as part of the Jordanian delegation.

—The composition of the Palestinian delegation has not yet been set, but it is clear that all the representatives will be residents of the territories. Although there are several proposed delegations, the Arab countries have unanimously decided that the Palestinians themselves will decide on their delegation's composition.

—The invitation to the conference will be sent to Jordan, and King Husayn will be the one to announce the composition of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

—The source of authority [meqor hasamkhut] of the Palestinian members of the joint delegation with Jordan will consist of the Palestinians themselves. (Arab sources at the United Nations have told DAVAR that one proposal suggests that al-Husayni, 'Ashrawi, and Muhammad al-Agha [name as published] should not be part of the Palestinian delegation, but rather the "source of authority." They will thus be able to liaise between the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the United States, USSR, and Arab countries; they will also be able to liaise between the delegation and the PLO, either via those other countries or directly. This will enable Israel to say that the PLO is not participating in the conference, while the other conference participants will be able to say that the fact that al-Husayni and 'Ashrawi constitute the "source of authority" means that the PLO is in fact directing the Palestinian delegation's positions at the conference.)

—On the question of East Jerusalem representation, Egypt suggested that the problem be solved by the appointment of one or more representatives from the villages of 'Isawiyah and Abu-Dis. When Jerusalem was united after the Six-Day War, Israel did not annex those villages and did not include them in Jerusalem's municipal jurisdiction area. Yet under Jordanian rule, until June 1967, those two villages were part of East Jerusalem. If that formula is embraced, each side will be able to contend that its position was accepted.

—The conference date and place have not yet been set, although they may be agreed on during the visits of James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Pankin to the region in October. Baker is expected to give Israel a list of proposed Palestinian delegates, while Pankin is expected to announce in Jerusalem that the two countries' diplomatic representation is being upgraded to full embassies. Immediately after that, invitations to the peace conference will be sent to all the parties.

Ghali: 'New Momentum' in Peace Process Needed

TA0310072291 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] The Egyptian deputy prime minister says that the Likud delegation's visit to Cairo is aimed at strengthening ties between Egypt and Israel. Dr. Butrus Ghali believes a new momentum is necessary now to help solve the Palestinian problem. He expressed the hope that the peace conference will be convened soon, despite the difficulties. Dr. Ghali spoke with our correspondent in Cairo Shlomo Raz.

[Begin recording] [Raz] When Dr. Butrus Ghali talks about the need to prepare public opinion for the international conference, he is referring to the public in Israel. He met with the Likud delegation and noted that a few weeks ago he also conferred with a Labor Party delegation.

[Ghali, in English] We believe that through this kind of exchange of ideas —there are no negotiations, but exchange of ideas, a dialogue—we may help to reinforce the relations between Egypt and Israel. In the same time, we may help to better preparations of the public opinion concerning the international conference.

[Raz] Incidentally, Dr. Ghali is particular about using the words international conference and no other term. He was not prepared to comment publicly on the other issues that arose in his talk with the Likud Knesset members, neither on Egypt's opposition to repealing the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism nor on the specific details of the peace process. He focused on the

need to strengthen the status of those circles in Israel who believe in a dialogue, in peace.

[Ghali, in English] This new momentum is important because, for one, it will help us to find a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem based on the different resolutions that had been adopted by the United Nations. It will reinforce the position of those inside Israel who believe in the importance of the dialogue, in the importance of negotiations, in the importance of peace, and, in the same time, it will contain radical movement and fundamentalist movement in the region.

[Raz] This constitutes a kind of appeal by Dr. Butrus Ghali to the Israeli public. It is not that he wants to play down the importance of the difficulties involved in the international conference, but he stresses that a new format is necessary in order to create a momentum for peace. [end recording]

Delayed Repeal of UN's Racism Resolution Urged

NC0210183591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, deputy prime minister for foreign relations, met today with the visiting Likud delegation led by the faction's head, Sara Doron. The delegation is visiting Egypt as part of the exchange of visits between the National Democratic Party [NDP] and the Israeli Likud Party.

The meeting reviewed the current efforts to attain a peaceful settlement and hold an international peace conference.

Following the meeting, Dr. Ghali said that the discussions also dealt with Egyptian-Israeli relations. He added that he told the Israeli delegation of the importance of surmounting the obstacles barring the peace conference's convention. He said the final goal is to reach a comprehensive and just settlement that guarantees the Palestinian people's legitimate rights so that peace and security can prevail in the Middle East.

Dr. Ghali said that he also told the Israeli delegation members that Egypt wants the peace conference to succeed and explained to them that any discussion of repealing the UN General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism must be postponed until after the peace conference, because there is no Arab consensus on discussing this issue at present. He added that postponing this issue to avoid division within the Arab ranks is in the best interest of the peace process.

The deputy prime minister for foreign relations pointed out that the meeting with the Israeli delegation was held in the framework of political party relations and in his own capacity as a member of the NDP secretariat. He said that a series of similar inter-party meetings has been held, including a recent visit by a delegation of the Israeli Labor Party.

Repeal Depends on Conference

TA0210155491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Egypt will oppose the initiative to have the United Nations repeal the resolution equating Zionism with racism until after the peace conference has convened. The above was reported by Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Butrus Ghali to the four Likud Knesset members who are in Egypt on an official visit. Dr. Ghali explained this by the difficulties that Egypt may encounter in the Arab world if it supports an amendment to the resolution as long as the peace process has not started. Our correspondent in Cairo, Shlomo Raz, reports that delegation head Sara Doron invited Dr. Ghali to make an official visit in Israel.

Mubarak Returns From Saudi Arabia Visit

NC0310121191 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1143 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Cairo, 3 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak returned home at 1315 today, ending a 24-hour visit to Saudi Arabia.

MENA has learned that President Mubarak's talks with King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, custodian of the two holy mosques, had centered on the Palestinian issue, efforts to convene an international peace conference, developments in the Arab arena, and the Gulf security issue.

The talks also dealt with boosting trade between the two countries and with following up the implementation of economic projects. Saudi Arabia contributes to the implementation and financing of these projects. This contribution is in the range of $500 million.

Views Domestic Issues

NC0310170291 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1454 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 3 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has announced that the international peace conference will be held at the end of October, adding that the venue of the conference has not yet been decided.

Mubarak affirmed that Egypt continues to support the Palestinian issue just as it has always done. In statements he made to chief editors of Egyptian national and party press during the trip back from Jeddah, President Mubarak said that by virtue of its destiny, leadership, and nobility Egypt cannot but support the Palestinian issue irrespective of differences of opinion with PLO leaders and of their mistakes regarding Egypt and the Palestinian cause. Mubarak said that Dr. Butrus Ghali, deputy prime minister for foreign relations, might be elected to the post of UN secretary general.

President Mubarak said that Egypt maintains good relations with all nations and is eager to continue these

relations, noting that the nation is not willing to please one state at the expense of another.

Answering a question about the danger Iraqi President Saddam Husayn poses to the Arab world, President Mubarak said that Saddam's adventures and ambitions were dangerous, saying that the UN experts have discovered 29 nuclear research centers in Iraq in addition to the 14 centers which Saddam himself had identified previously. Mubarak said that Iraq's plan was based on a Saddam miscalculation that he could exploit Egypt's importance for his own purposes to win the Gulf region and be accepted by the international community, which has rejected and continues to reject him.

Mubarak was asked about Egypt's use of nuclear power stations. Mubarak answered: We have begun the economic reform process, and we have four more years to go in this process. We must proceed with this process or we will be in a situation similar to that of the socialist states, which cannot provide the basic needs of their citizens.

Nuclear-powered electricity stations will cost $20 billion, Mubarak said, adding: Our current economic situation cannot handle this much money because we are not prepared to go more into debt. He explained that the cancellation of some of Egypt's debts has enabled it to catch its breath. President Mubarak said that we must do our utmost to increase and improve production before embarking on development projects about which much research and studies are taking place.

Mubarak discussed the investigation the socialist prosecutor is conducting on charges against some assembly members, saying that the state will protect no one: We support justice, law, and respect for the Constitution. If evidence is found implicating any of them, Mubarak said he would ask the assembly to lift their parliamentary immunity and that measures would be taken according to law and the Constitution. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Fifteen Alleged Coupists Sentenced To Death

PM0310144691 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 1 Oct 91 pp 1, 6

[Ahmad al-Qurashi report: "Khartoum Sentences 13 Officers and Two Civilians To Death"]

[Excerpts] London—The legitimate command of the Sudanese Armed Forces has announced that the secret military courts formed to try the military men and civilians accused of taking part in the alleged attempted coup have sentenced to death 13 officers and two civilians from among the 70 defendants. The two civilians belong to the Ummah Party led by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi.

The ruling military council and the 40-member council are said to have approved the sentences, which will be implemented at any time.

The legitimate command said that the 40-member council, which comprises National Islamic Front members, military elements, and civilians, is the highest authority in Sudan. It was this council which decided on the execution of 28 soldiers following the formal trials conducted in April 1990. It has emerged so far that those sentenced to death include retired Major General Muhammad 'Uthman Halifi; retired Brigadier 'Ali al-Tijani; Colonel Ahmad Khalid; Col. Yahya Jamalmal; 'Abd-al-Rahman Naqdallah, member of the Ummah Party Politburo and chairman of the Supreme Council for Religious and Awqaf Affairs in the previous government; and 'Abd-al-Latif al-Jumay'abi, a key Ummah Party leader. [passage omitted]

In London and Cairo the Democratic National Grouping urged "the world conscience as represented in the permanent members of the Security Council to highlight the tragedy of nationalists, both military and civilian, to rescue them, and to intervene directly by dispatching observers from the Red Crescent, the Red Cross, Amnesty International, and the UN Human Rights Committee to stop the expected massacres. [passage omitted]

Officers Imprisoned for 1990 Coup Said To Escape

PM0310145691 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 1 Oct 91 pp 1, 4

['Uthman Mirghani report: "Seven Officers Escape From Prison"]

[Excerpts] London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—It was reported in London and Cairo yesterday that the special military courts formed to try those detained because of their involvement in the attempted coup against the Sudanese Government said to have been foiled in August have issued death sentences against 13 military men and two civilians. [passage omitted]

Informed Sudanese sources have confirmed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the military courts, which held secret sessions, have actually issued their sentences and referred them to the military council. The sources, however, could not confirm whether these sentences stipulate the execution of 15 of the detainees, who number about 39. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, informed sources have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that seven soldiers serving prison sentences on charges of involvement in a previous coup attempt in March last year have managed to flee Sudan.

The sources said that these soldiers had been moved from prison to the Military Hospital, from which they managed to escape and to leave the country for a neighboring state via Khartoum Airport.

According to the sources, these soldiers include Colonel 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Abd-al-Muttalib, who was sentenced to five years' imprisonment. [passage omitted]

Foreign Ministry on Danish Embassy Closing

E.40310132091 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1315 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has issued a statement on reports in the foreign press that the Government of Denmark has decided to close its embassy in Khartoum on 1 October to protest human rights violations in Sudan. The statement expressed Sudan's regret over such a decision and said that the Danish officials' statement on human rights violations in Sudan was completely false and baseless. The statement clarified that Denmark had, through official channels, made it known that it had decided to close its embassy in Khartoum for financial reasons.

Leader of Anti-Garang Forces Claims Victories

E.40310131991 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1315 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Dr. Lam Akol Ajawin, leader of the revolt against rebel leader John Garang, has declared that his forces have achieved victories against the Garang forces in five areas in the south, the last of which included dislodging Garang's forces from Kongor Area in Jonglei Province last week. In an interview with the BBC in Nairobi, Lam Akol said a return to Garang is out of the question and that he has no regrets over toppling dictator John Garang, but rather is proud of it. Lam Akol requested international organizations to investigate the crimes committed by John Garang against children in his camps, including the military training imposed on them and their involvement on the battlefield.

Tunisia

Reportage on Alleged Ennahda Movement Coup Plan

Ennahda Pledges Adherence to Civil Action

PM0310151491 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 1 Oct 91 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Ghannouchi Says: 'Ennahda' Committed To Civil Political Action Methods"]

[Text] London, AL-HAYAH—Shaykh Rachid Ghannouchi, leader of the Tunisian Ennahda movement, emphasized in a statement received by the AL-HAYAH office in London yesterday that the movement "is still committed to the program of change through civil political action methods, despite all that it has suffered." He described the Tunisian authorities' announcement of a plan drawn up by the Ennahda, including an assassination attempt against President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, as "a weak scenario (...) that reflects the rapid worsening of the regime's crisis."

Ghannouchi said that "this scenario reveals the desire to denigrate the Ennahda movement by defaming its political leadership and to damage its cordial international relations with many states, especially neighboring states." He said that "the movement does not approve of violence as a means of resolving political problems. It is the authorities which are responsible for this."

Former Premier Denies Links With Plan

PM0310152091 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT in AL-DUWALI in Arabic 2 Oct 91 p 1

[Salih al-Ashmar report: "Mzali Says: I Have Nothing To Do With 'Imaginary' Government"]

[Text] Paris—Former Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali has denied Tunisian Interior Minister Abdallah Kallel's allegations, made in his remarks last Saturday, that he had links with the coup planned by the Ennahda movement.

Answering a question put by SAWT AL-KUWAYT, he said: Were it not for the tragic situation in Tunisia, I would say that these allegations are ridiculous. For my part, I condemn violence, whatever its source, and I have nothing at all to do with that imaginary government.

Minister Assails Ennahda Practices

LD0310131191 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Excerpts] A huge public rally has been organized in the town of Menzel Bourguiba in the province of Bizerte attended by Transport Minister Habib Lazreg. In his address to the rally, the minister reviewed the aspects of the criminal plan of the conspiracy planned by the so-called Ennahda [Revival—Islamic fundamentalists] movement. He pointed out the group's terrorist nature and immoral practices, which are evidence of the faulty reasoning and malicious hearts that led the group to this grave stage of terrorism and murder aimed at throwing the country into a stage of bloody conflict and absolute chaos.

The minister pointed out that God wanted to spare this good country when He guided the national security authorities to expose this wanton conspiracy and nip it in the bud. The authorities were thus able to destroy the dreams of the malicious minority who met good deeds with ingratitude and forgot or pretended to forget the forgiving stance of the maker of the change [reference to President Ben Ali and his overthrow of Bourguiba] when he spared its members from the gallows and restored the hopes of life to them, in accordance with the principle of forgiveness and the spirit of civilized coexistence which were brought by the 7 November statement. [passage omitted]

He stressed that there is no neutrality after today in such issues of destiny. This is because neutrality in this case is treason to the homeland and conscience and a betrayal of Islamic, human, and moral values. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Military Agreement With France Taking Form

LD0210101891 London KUNA in Arabic 0853 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Oct (KUNA)—French Ambassador to Kuwait Jean Bressot has affirmed that there are French-Kuwaiti contacts to conclude a military agreement between the two countries. In a statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT newspaper, published today, Bressot said that this agreement is currently the subject of consultations and is being studied by the specialized officials in Kuwait and Paris. He pointed out that what has been achieved to date is merely an initial agreement. He refrained, however, from giving the complete details.

The French ambassador expects the signing of the agreement to be completed before the end of the current year, but he refused to fix a specific date. Bressot pointed out that this "agreement is not on an equal level with the security agreement between Kuwait and the United States, and said that it would be nearer to the military agreement signed between Kuwait and Britain." [quotation marks as received]

Finally, Bressot emphasized that French President Francois Mitterrand has accepted an official invitation to visit Kuwait, and that there are consultations underway between the two countries to fix its date. It should be mentioned that His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah will start an official visit to France next Friday [4 October].

Saudi Arabia

Foreign Minister Addresses UN General Assembly

LD0210103791 Riyadh SPA in English 1929 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] New York Oct 1, SPA — Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, has reiterated the support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the efforts exerted by the U.S. Administration to bring about a just and permanent peace in the Middle East.

Prince Sa'ud, who was addressing the General Assembly of the United Nations here Monday night, said building of Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories constitutes a flagrant violation to the international law and the UN's resolutions.

We do welcome the statement issued by the Palestinian National Council in its recent session which confirms the attitude towards peace, he said while reiterating the keenness of the Arab nation on realization of peace. We are keen on peace and our religion calls for peace, he added. He quoted the holy Koran as saying "should they lean towards peace then you must lean towards it and must trust in God".

Referring to the Lebanese problem, Prince Sa'ud said the Lebanese Government has been doing its best to implement the articles of the national reconciliation agreement concluded by the Lebanese parliamentarians in Al-Ta'if. We do support the on-going efforts by the Lebanese Government to reconstruct Lebanon, he said.

On the problem of Somalia, Prince Sa'ud said the Kingdom, realizing its historical and Islamic responsibilty, had urged the Somalian factions to settle their dispute through peaceful negotiations in a way that preserves the unity, security and stabilty of Somalia.

Prince Saud highlighted the struggle of the Afghan people to liberate their country and preserve their beliefs, independence and sovereignty. The Saudi Government is genuinely keen on the settlement of the Afghan problem peacefully in a manner that satisfies the aspiration of the Afghan people, he said. Moreover, Prince Sa'ud deplored the racial segregation policy in South Africa and called for abrogation of the racial laws.

He noted that the kingdom supports the current efforts to prevent proliferation of mass-killing weapons and establishment of nuclear-free zones. The Kingdom, which is one of the signatories of the non-proliferation treaty, has been abiding by its provisions, he said. The Middle East region which has suffered a number of wars and armed conflicts, should remain a nuclear-free zone, he added.

Prince Sa'ud underscored the importance of cooperation between the developing and the industrial countries to solve the global economic problems. He noted that the development process is linked with security and stability. It is hoped that the industrial countries will increase the rate of their aid to the developing countries, he said.

He pointed out that the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] member states, which group the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain, have been doing their best to boost the development process in the Arab world.

Referring to the new international order, Prince Sa'ud said "today we witness a new international order, its foundations are the principles of the united nations and its pillar is the international legality. An international order which adopts peaceful means for the settlement of disputes and renounces the use of force. We as Muslims welcome these historical transforamtions and look forward to strengthening the foundation of this new order," he added.

Rebel Radio Reports Coup Attempt, Executions

NC0310151991 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1420 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Citing well-informed military sources, an Iraqi opposition member has disclosed that discontent is growing in Army ranks, particularly following a recent coup attempt. Former Prime Minister Sa'dun Hammadi, a large number of officers from the Republican Guard and other units, and some Iraqi tribal chieftains from the central Euphrates area were accused of involvement in the coup. The coup prompted the criminal regime to replace top officials and engage in wide-scale liquidations, including the execution of 67 officers [words indistinct].

Hammadi Reportedly Involved

LD0310110791 Tehran IRNA in English 0947 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 3, IRNA—76 Iraqi officers have been executed by the Iraqi regime in the wake of an aborted coup attempt in which Sa'dun Hammadi was allegedly involved, Radio 'Revolutionary Iraq' [Voice of Rebellious Iraq] announced Wednesday night. The radio, monitored here, quoted informed Iraqi military sources as saying that a state of anxiety and revolt reigns in the Army in the aftermath of the failed coup.

Hammadi was unexpectedly dismissed from his post as prime minister and also from the leadership council of the ruling Ba'th Party last month.

Rebel Radio on POW's Returning From Iran

NC0310160891 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1420 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] As part of its vindictive campaign against our struggling people, the terrorist regime executed returning military POW's from the neighborly Muslim country of Iran. The regime accused the men of surrendering without putting up a fight during the Saddamist [Iraq-Iran] war of aggression. Reliable sources report that scores of POW's are being detained in the regime's military centers and are being subject to methodical interrogation.

The sources added that the criminal regime is very worried that the former POW's will tell our heroic people the full and scandalous details of the regime's battlefield performance and the complete route that Saddam's troops suffered. This claim contradicts the claims of the regime's official media.

Mas'ud Barzani on Talks, Military Operations

NC0310114091 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 29 Sep 91 p 16

["Exclusive" interview with Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, by CUMHURIYET correspondent Yasemin Congar in Barzan and Shaqlawah; date not given]

[Congar] What is your opinion on the withdrawal of the multinational force ground units?

[Barzani] As I recently informed Major General James Jamerson, commander of the multinational force, I am not very concerned about where the multinational units are and how long they will stay. Nor am I very concerned about how they will perform their duties. What I feel is important are the political decisions the countries that have established the multinational force will adopt in connection with the Kurds.

[Congar] What do you mean when you say political decisions? What was your expectation when you asked the Western officials you met before to make a "political disclosure?"

[Barzani] I expected a document or a written disclosure which would support the Kurds.

[Congar] Reports have said that you may agree to the exclusion of Karkuk from the autonomous region in northern Iraq.

[Barzani] We do not agree to relinquish even a centimeter of Kurdistan's territory. This is final. Nevertheless, we have to reach an agreement at a certain point during the talks we are holding with Baghdad. We must reach middle ground to satisfy all the sides concerned. In view of this, the way the agreement will be written will be important. Certain shortcomings may exist. The way the agreement is written, however, must not provide for the continuation of the shortcomings. In other words, I will not sign an agreement indicating we have taken a step backward, made concessions, and given up a number of things. Actually, no one has asked me to take a step back and sign such an agreement.

[Congar] You have established effective control over the northern part of the country. Clashes have ceased. Why have you decided to consider an agreement for autonomy which may have shortcomings?

[Barzani] Yes, the situation is calm and peaceful for the time being. But this does not imply that peace has been established. Very serious problems may emerge in the future. We are living through a dangerous era. How can it be said that the future of our people has been guaranteed?

[Congar] Have you set a date for signing an agreement? Will an agreement be signed before winter, which is expected to create difficult conditions?

[Barzani] As far as we are concerned, there is no time limit. Signing an agreement before winter is a strong possibility.

[Congar] You said earlier that you will sign an agreement, which may have shortcomings, if the people decided to support it. Do you plan to hold a referendum on the question of autonomy?

[Barzani] Yes, holding a referendum is a strong possibility. For example, if an agreement cannot be reached on the question of the political leadership in the autonomous region, then we will move to hold a referendum.

[Congar] Reports have said that a difference of opinion exists between you and Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, on this matter.

[Barzani] The Kurdistan Front adopted a unanimous decision to hold talks with Baghdad. The members of the front were a part of the talks held thus far. A difference of opinion on basic issues does not exist. We only have different ideas and insignificant differences.

[Congar] President Ozal received Nekhjirvan Barzani last week. What is your expectation from the Turkish Government? Has an inclination emerged during this meeting for cooperation against the Kurdish Workers Party [PKK]?

[Barzani] We have common interests with Turkey in the border region. Turkey is directly affected by each and every development in Iraq. In view of this, the establishment of stability in Kurdistan will have positive effects on Turkey. Meanwhile, I was very pleased by President Ozal's invitation. I am unable to travel to Turkey because I am occupied at the present time. A bargain was definitely not made on the PKK problem during the meeting between President Ozal and Nakhjirvan Barzani. Nevertheless, I can say that certain parts of the 300-km border between Turkey and northern Iraq are difficult to control. The PKK may have established a number of bases in these areas. We do not support the PKK's methods. We dissociate ourselves with their methods and with the killing of civilians. We do not want the PKK militants to organize their activities within our borders. The concept of our struggle is based on calls for peaceful action.

[Congar] You reacted strongly to the cross-border operation organized by the Turkish Armed Forces. Can you explain the stand you plan to adopt against a new operation?

[Barzani] We will have the right to defend ourselves and our people if the Turkish Armed Forces embark on an operation which will be similar to the one recently conducted, an operation in which our civilian people will be killed once more. Women and children were killed during the recent operation. I suggest that the Turkish intelligence officials be very careful not to repeat the mistake they made the last time. Meanwhile, the Turkish Armed Forces must not take action based on incorrect information.

[Congar] Would you cooperate with Turkey on intelligence gathering operations?

[Barzani] We do not have a security arrangement with Turkey in order to be able to cooperate with that country on intelligence gathering operations.

[Congar] How do you assess the PKK's future as a Kurdish organization?

[Barzani] What I will say is based on my personal experience in the struggle that we have waged thus far. A peaceful dialogue is the best way to achieve an objective. Armed activities should only be used for defense. Frankly speaking, I am curious to know what the PKK wants. If it is struggling to achieve autonomy, then it should abandon its armed actions and move to establish a peaceful dialogue. If it is struggling for independence, then it is not pursuing a realistic direction. Independence is not possible in practice. What can we do with a Kurdistan which will be squeezed and isolated among four countries? If the Kurds opt for independence, then they must avoid clashing with the neighboring countries. I am skeptical about the PKK's slogans and the way it organizes itself. I am skeptical about the PKK's sincerity because it has been supported by countries like Iran, Syria, and Iraq, which are completely opposed to Kurdish independence. I must note at this point that Iraq was opposed to the independence of the Kurds until recently. The whole world would oppose me if I said I wanted independence for Kurdistan. Why are they supporting the PKK? That organization is not telling the truth.

[Congar] What is your opinion on the common future of the Kurds? What is your objective in the long run?

[Barzani] Let me say this clearly: We believe that the border dividing Kurdistan is artificial. We believe in the common future of the Kurds. Nevertheless, we do not deny the existence of the borders which divide Kurdistan. Independence cannot be achieved through bloody armed clashes. We are a people like the Turks and the Arabs. Our right to self-determination must be recognized. We can achieve our common objective if we are able to establish a state which will not be opposed by the Turks, the Arabs, and the Iranians. Of course, international conditions also must favor this. This is very important as well. Nevertheless, let me point out that the concept of a new world order requires the countries which have divided Kurdistan to be more realistic at present. History has proven that pressure always backfires. Therefore, the governments in the region stand to gain if they realize this without losing time.

Talabani Says Talks With Saddam 'Deadlocked'

NC0310135491 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, has said that the talks with tyrant Saddam Husayn concerning self-rule for the Kurds are deadlocked. Talabani added that the tyrant's regime is unwilling to recognize the (?human) and national rights of the Kurdish people.

Artillery Commander Lauds Volunteerism

JN0310141791 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio First Program Network in Arabic 1238 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Address by the unidentified "commander" of the Army Artillery Corps carried within "the Armed Forces" program on the 70th anniversary of the Artillery Corps; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] In my name and that of the heroic men of the Artillery Corps, we congratulate president leader Saddam Husayn, may God protect him on this glorious day, the 70th anniversary of the Artillery Corps. This corps was established on such a day in 1921. Praise be to its valiant men who have taught the enemies the lessons they deserved while in defense of our beloved nation and our good land. These men have excelled on the battlefield, shook the earth under the enemies' feet, and scared them in accurate, speedy, and effective clashes in every battle and on all the battle fronts during the glorious Saddam Husayn's Al-Qadisiyah and the immortal Mother of Battles, under the banner of the president leader, may God protect him.

Brothers, I seize this opportunity to give our dear listeners a glimpse of the history of the Artillery Corps. This corps was established on 1 October 1921. The first artillery batteries were established to support our Armed Forces and their units. The corps continued to develop slowly until the 17-31 July Revolution, when the political leadership under the president leader, may God protect him, paid special attention to the development of the Artillery Corps. The report of the Ba'th Party's Eighth Congress focused on the corps when it affirmed the need to develop the fire power of the Armed Forces.

Over the past two decades, this corps has witnessed a sizable quantitative and qualitative development, which manifested itself during Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah and the Mother of Battles. Friends and foes testified to its efficiency. Our artillery destroyed the enemies of God and the homeland by showering them with intensive salvos.

I invite mature young men to volunteer for our valiant corps. I would like to enumerate to them the privileges they will receive: First of all, it will be a source of great pride for them to join a prestigious corps. The volunteers will receive allocations between 35 and 40 dinars. The overall remuneration for any new volunteer in our beloved corps is 276 dinars, in addition to the president leader's noble gesture of increasing those salaries by 40 percent. Thus, the aggregate salary reaches 380 dinars. There are other benefits for those who volunteer, including a 200-dinar volunteer bonus, a 2,000-dinar marriage loan, a piece of land, a car, a 1,000-dinar bonus upon renewal of their contract, a 6,000-dinar loan from the real estate bank, and (300 dinars).

We conclude by pledging to Comrade President Saddam Husayn, the guarantor of Iraq's glory and the hope of the nation, that we will remain his loyal soldiers, faithful to the march of our party and revolution and to the glory of our nation.

Greetings to the men of our valiant corps. Greetings of glory, loftiness to all our brothers. We ask God to guide our steps.

Shamir, Levi Clash as U.S. Talks Ordered Ended

TA0310172091 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] The prime minister's bureau has instructed Zalman Shoval, Israel's ambassador to Washington, to terminate his contacts with the U.S. Administration on the formulation of the letter of assurances Israel is demanding from the administration prior to the peace conference. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the prime minister's bureau is at loggerheads with the foreign minister's office over the question of whether to demand a memorandum of understanding or a letter of assurances.

Ambassador Shoval is to meet today with the State Department's Dennis Ross, but the agreements on the documents will apparently be reached in Israel during Secretary Baker's visit to the region.

Levi: No Dispute With Shamir

TA0410061591 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by 'Oded Ben-'Ami in New York on 3 October—recorded]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] There is a feeling that there is a misunderstanding or differences of opinion between your position and that of the prime minister on the letter of assurances or memorandum of understanding.

[Levi] We are working together to advance Israel's interests within the parameters fixed by the government in an attempt to achieve the most and the best we can. I refuse to discuss those reports. Sometimes people have an interest in issuing tendentious reports. I am not affected by such things. People have spoken in the prime minister's name more than once. Had I taken them into account, I would have made them prime minister. Since there is an elected prime minister, I am concerned only about what we agree upon.

[Ben-'Ami] What are we in fact trying to achieve here: a letter of assurances or a memorandum of understanding?

[Levi] We are trying to achieve the best we can, to the extent possible, on condition that there be a binding U.S. commitment. There is a U.S. understanding that what they give us will be signed and binding. We are working on that.

[Ben-'Ami] Will it be called a memorandum of understanding, in the final analysis?

[Levi] I do not deal with terms but with substance. You can end up with something that has an amusing name and supposedly has everything in it, but in substance does not contain anything to safeguard your interests. What use does such a thing have? If you achieve something that contains what you want, and you are not asked to commit yourself to things you do not want, then why should you care what it is called? Up to this moment, there has been no dispute or any differences of approach or views between myself and the prime minister. There are those who like to make a lot of noise and declarations, while in the end they are the first to cave in. They think that the important thing is to appear strong, but their achievements are questionable. I believe we have a very good chance, and I regret the pessimistic declarations. I am not being lightheaded and am not saying that everything is simple, but our positions now have greater validity than ever before.

[Ben-'Ami] Rumors being circulated in the UN corridors by Western diplomats say that the date of the peace conference has been fixed for 30 and 31 October, probably in Lausanne, Switzerland. Is that the place and date for the conference?

[Levi] There are many rumors, which also reach us. We hear the location and date from various sources. What matters for Israel is getting an agreement on all the issues that remain open. I worked that out too with Mr. Baker. He still cannot provide a date with certainty.

West Bank, Gaza Settlements Under Construction

TA0410080791 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Oct 91 p 1

[Report by On Levi]

[Text] At the initiative of Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon, two new settlements are currently being established: one in the Judaea area and the other on the Gaza Strip beachfront, a senior source in the Civil Administration told DAVAR last night.

The settlement in Gaza, Pe'at Sade, is near the Neve Deqalim junction. The authorization for its establishment, issued under the Shamir government in 1984, was canceled during the six years in which the Likud formed a national unity government with the Labor Party. Immediately upon the formation of the present government last year, Ministers Arens and Sharon began to work on the settlement. There is a de facto settlement under that name in Gaza, but in fact it is the abandoned settlement of 'Atzmona, in whose houses the settlers of Pe'at Sade lived while their new homes were being built without permission and at an accelerated pace.

The settlement of Pe'at Sade is a new settlement in the Gaza Strip, and construction began several weeks ago. In the first stage, the Construction and Housing Ministry is putting up 20 structures for some 20 families and, at a later stage, the ministries plan to expand the settlement to some 100 families.

Senior officials in the Gaza Strip Civil Administration said last night that the settlement is being built by the Construction and Housing Ministry without permits and without a master plan, and that only now have the authorities begun to deal with retroactive legislation.

The sources said that in recent months, there has been wide-ranging activity toward the expansion of existing settlements, even without obtaining the necessary permits.

Sources in the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria said last night that to the best of their knowledge, there has been activity in recent weeks to get approval for another settlement in the Judaea region, but details about it are being kept a big secret.

It will be recalled that prior to Secretary of State James Baker's frequent visits in recent months, he was informed about the establishment of new settlements. Pe'at Sade and a settlement in the southern sector of the Hebron Hills are the first to be set up since the crisis between President Bush and Prime Minister Shamir over the loan guarantees and over settlement began.

In response, the settlers claimed last night that the initiative for the establishment of Pe'at Sade came from Labor's Nisim Zvili and that the nucleus settled on the site for a trial period during the national unity government. They said that the claims that no authorization was given for a master plan are imprecise and that a master plan was approved. Uri Ari'el, chairman of the Amana movement, said: "I am not prepared to react to such false reports."

Plan for 26 Jerusalem Settlements

TA0410092391 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Oct 91 p A1

[Text] The Construction and Housing Ministry and activists in 'Ateret Hakohanim Yeshiva are secretly preparing a plan for the establishment of 26 new settlements in East Jerusalem, Jerusalem's local newspaper KOL HA'IR reports today.

The report includes an official Construction and Housing Ministry map, entitled: "The Jerusalem Gates Plan." The map includes the name of the 'Ateret Hakohanim Yeshiva.

According to the plan prepared by 'Ateret Hakohanim, some 4,000 new housing units will be built. Most of the lands on which the apartments will be built were confiscated in 1967 by order of then Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir. The confiscated lands total 3,345 dunams, but a survey carried out by architects has discovered that after new neighborhoods are built on them, a lot of land will still remain unused. 'Ateret Hakohanim is now trying to seize control of those lands with the aid of Shmu'el Me'ir, a National Religious Party member of the Jerusalem Municipal Council.

A document that has reached KOL HA'IR correspondent Avi Pozan details the following points: Three settlements with 320 housing units are planned to run along the northern axis of the Old City wall, near New Gate-Herod's Gate-Damascus Gate. Some of the lands in that region belong to Himanuta, a subsidiary of the Jewish National Fund. Two other plans, which are the most daring, touch on the Silwan area, one east of the village and the other on the southeastern slopes of Mount Zion, on which 200 units will be built.

Four settlements are north of the Ma'ale Adumim road, and three others are near Ramot Eshkol and Ammunition Hill. The plan is to build a small Jewish neighborhood of some 500 apartments in the area around Eshkol Junction and Nabulus Road, near National Police headquarters.

In the UN Relief and Works Agency complex near Ammunition Hill, Construction and Housing Ministry officials want to build some 250 housing units, but that plan is almost impossible because of the difficulties in removing the UN installations there. For that reason, it is merely a declaration of ideological intentions. About five additional settlements in which 400 apartments are to be built are slated to go up on the eastern side of Route 1.

Two much more problematic zones are the areas west of Wadi al-Jawz and east of al-Shaykh Jarrah and on the eastern slopes of Mount Scopus. In the Wadi al-Jawz area, there will be four settlements—including the plan disclosed by HA'ARETZ to build 300 housing units on an olive grove belonging to Faysal al-Husayni. The land on the eastern slopes of Mount Scopus was earlier earmarked for the construction of a new Supreme Court building, but that is now being built near the Knesset. Under the Construction and Housing Ministry plan, some 500 housing units will be built there.

The KOL HA'IR correspondent reports that Sharon's reaction was that in a meeting held several weeks ago with Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, it was agreed that all the city's building plans would be handled by teams set up jointly by the municipality and the ministry and which will coordinate between them.

Official sources in Jerusalem Municipality told HA'ARETZ last night that they do not know about the plan published in KOL HA'IR.

Shamir on Settlements, Arab World Mood

TA0310201591 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has accused the Arab countries of creating an antipeace atmosphere on the eve of the convocation of the regional conference. He criticized a senior Egyptian figure who joined those who oppose repealing the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism. He meant Minister Butrus Ghali. The prime minister added that reality renders continued settlement activity at this time justifiable. He appeared today before a forum of Herut-Betar settlements in the settlement of Shaqed in Samaria. Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik joined him on his tour:

[Begin recording] [Sukenik] Yitzhaq Shamir continues to oppose the U.S. reason for deferring the loan guarantees to Israel for aliyah. Commenting on the Senate's acceptance of the deferral, he said that for now it involves no

damage and that the chances of receiving the loan guarantees have not diminished.

He told the Herut-Betar forum members that the time that has elapsed has decreased the happiness at the coming together of the nation, as well as the expanses of our forefathers' land. It is therefore necessary to sustain the settlement zeal, which is particularly important now.

Later he explained that it is clear to him that one of the tough issues that will be discussed at the peace conference would be the settlements.

[Shamir] Settlement activity in Judaea, Samaria, Gaza, and the Golan develops and opens this issue, painting it in clearer colors and making it relevant. The settlement activity removes it from the theoretical sphere.

[Sukenik] Is this a signal that if we settle there, we will actually never pull out of these areas?

[Shamir] This is a topic for negotiations, as I said. Clearly, however, this is a highly important aspect of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel claims that these areas are ours; the Arab world says the opposite. This is the issue at hand; this is what the negotiations will deal with.

[Sukenik] Do you have the resources for all these things—aliyah, settlements, and employment? There has never been enough, says Mr. Shamir during a stroll in Shaqed in Samaria, but that is life.

He is deeply concerned by the atmosphere in the Arab world, including Egypt, which does not at all seem conducive to peace.

[Shamir] After the Gulf war, U.S. representatives came to us and claimed that something has changed in the region. The Arabs are showing greater readiness to accept Israel, they said. We have not witnessed this; we have seen no sign or manifestation of this—either in the deliberations or in their media. We have not seen this in the United Nations. This is saddening because the atmosphere constitutes a very significant component of such negotiations. [end recording]

De Facto Freeze Reported

TA0310162691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] The prime minister says that it is necessary to sustain the settlement zeal in the territories. Those who object to settlements, said Shamir, will soon see that the settlements create a new avenue for reaching our political goals. The prime minister was speaking at a Herut-Betar settlement representatives meeting in the settlement of Shaqed in northern Samaria.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports, however, that the leaders of Herut's settlement movement said at that meeting that they had been told by all the government bodies that due to political sensitivity the process of setting up new settlements in the territories is frozen for all intents and purposes. Hayim Abudram, secretary general of the Herut settlements, told our correspondent that members of the nuclei who wished to establish new settlements in Judaea and Samaria were offered an alternative: joining existing settlements, which are currently doubling their population.

Russian Immigrants To Settle New Golan Site

TA0410102791 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] The Nahal settlement of Qela' Hagolan on the Golan Heights will be civilianized within two weeks, and 22 new immigrant families from the USSR will live there. The group is supposed to establish the Golan Heights settlement of Brukhin in the future.

Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that settlement is part of a master plan for the development of the region presented to the prime minister this morning by representatives of the Golan Heights settlements. Yitzhaq Shamir told the settlers that there is no doubt whatsoever about the future of the Golan Heights.

The project will cost $200 million and is aimed at expanding the Golan Heights population from 11,500 to 40,000 within four years.

Sharon Blames U.S. for Continuation of Intifadah

TA0410065391 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon last night sharply attacked the U.S. Administration and blamed it for the continuation of the intifadah. He said the war against terrorism is not being waged out of fear that it will cast a shadow on ties with the United States.

[Begin Sharon recording] The war against terrorism is not being waged today because there is a fear that it may cast a shadow on the fabric of relations with an administration that is dragging us to an international kangaroo court. What we are currently doing, the move we are being dragged into, is, to my regret, a move that cannot bring peace. We should have made it quite clear that a de facto Palestinian state already exists in Jordan [applause]. There already is a Palestinian state. That used to be said openly, and even Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir used to say it very clearly. It is not being said today. Why? Because the Americans are not happy with it. We must repeatedly say that there already is a Palestinian state and there will never be a second one. [end recording]

Minister Sharon addressed ceremonies marking the 100th anniversary of Hadera.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 4 October carries a similar report by correspondent Sefi Handler, adding that "Sharon lauded settlement in all parts of Israel." In a recorded passage, Sharon says: "In the political avalanche into which Israel has been thrown, settlement in every part of Eretz Yisra'el is the

final dam preventing a second Palestinian state alongside that which already exists on the other side of the Jordan River."

[Handler adds that earlier, Sharon participated in a meeting of the Hadera Municipal Council, where he "warned against a regional arms race bolstered by the United States, especially in Egypt." In a recorded passage, Sharon says: "Today we are experiencing a Middle East arms race the likes of which did not exist during the past 40 years and in which the United States is the chief supplier. Today Egypt's Air Force is larger than the Israeli Air Force. It receives the most modern aircraft and the most sophisticated technology, and the question is: Why?"]

Levi, Musa Discuss UN Resolution, Settlements

TA0310154491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa says this is not the right time to raise the issue of the repeal of the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that in a meeting with Foreign Minister David Levi at the United Nations in New York, the Egyptian minister said that although the resolution was shameful and bad, the peace process should not be impeded in any way. He claimed that a discussion of the issue now may be a hindrance.

The Egyptian minister described the settlements as illegal, and he again mentioned President Mubarak's initiative for the repeal of the economic boycott against Israel in return for a freeze on settlement.

Foreign Minister David Levi said that those are two distinct issues that should not be lumped together.

No Concessions for Meeting With Mubarak

TA0310123291 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 3 Oct 91 pp 1, 4

[Report by Moti Bassok]

[Excerpt] Israel has no information regarding a U.S. attempt to arrange a meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak prior to the peace conference, a senior Prime Minister's Office source said yesterday in Jerusalem.

Rumors originating in the United States and saying that such a meeting was being sought in a bid to break the ice between the two men circulated yesterday in political bureaus in Jerusalem. It will be recalled that in recent months, President Mubarak has rejected every attempt to place him face to face with the Israeli prime minister. Sources in Shamir's bureau said that, in any event and despite what the U.S. reports implied, Israel will not be willing to make any concessions in return for such a meeting.

The Prime Minister's Office is continuing its preparations for the peace conference. In the absence of the foreign minister and other senior Foreign Ministry officials who are abroad, the work is being done at the Prime Minister's Office and the Defense Ministry. Working teams are busy preparing files with position papers for the opening session, for the separate committee meetings with Arab countries and with the Palestinians, and for a multilateral meeting on regional problems. The prime minister recently said that there is a possibility that he, rather than the foreign minister, will head the Israeli delegation at the peace conference opening. It was said yesterday at Shamir's bureau that the talks about Lausanne and the end of October as the conference site and date were mere guesswork and that the issue has not been finalized. [passage omitted]

Shamir Aide on Ties With Egypt, Peace Talks

TA0310125691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1105 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Telephone interview with Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, by Sheli Yehimovich—live]

[Text] [Yehimovich] First of all, let us discuss our relations with Egypt. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has made harsh remarks about Egypt because of its position on the Zionism equals racism issue. Is there a crisis in Israeli-Egyptian relations?

[Ben-Aharon] We should not reach a rather extreme conclusion and define it as a crisis, but we are experiencing one disappointment after another in our relations with Egypt. The latest blow was the report that Egypt is unprepared to support the repeal of that disgraceful resolution equating Zionism with racism. That simply does not go with good relations with Egypt, which should be peaceful and neighborly.

[Yehimovich] What is Egypt's motive?

[Ben-Aharon] I believe that, in recent months, Egypt has actively been trying to become the leading Arab state. Since the Arab League moved its headquarters back to Cairo, Egypt has been directing its efforts at conducting Arab affairs and at a rapprochement with all the Arab states. It therefore finds it proper to follow the Arab consensus, which, it is known, rejects Zionism outright.

[Yehimovich] How will that influence the peace process?

[Ben-Aharon] The peace process does not touch directly on Egypt, but on our other neighbors: Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, and the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. Egypt also wants to fulfill a leading or useful role there as well, but regrettably, its current behavior does not permit it to lead, and it is certainly not being useful.

[Yehimovich] There is talk about a possible meeting between Prime Minister Shamir and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, even before the peace conference. Is that still on the agenda?

[Ben-Aharon] I do not know about such a thing. We are not asking for a meeting. In Paris the prime minister told Butrus Ghali—the last Egyptian with whom he met—that he is not asking for a meeting, but it is inconceivable for the leaders of two neighbors who have peaceful relations not to meet and for President Mubarak to treat the issue as though he is doing Israel a favor or wants something in return even before agreeing to such a meeting. That is incomprehensible.

[Yehimovich] Are there U.S. attempts to arrange such a meeting?

[Ben-Aharon] There is U.S. activity to push Egypt into warming up relations and converting them into normal relations between two neighbors. We know with certainty that the U.S. activity is unfruitful.

[Yehimovich] The U.S. Senate yesterday approved by a large majority President Bush's request to postpone the debate on the loan guarantees to Israel, which means the entire foreign aid debate will take place only in late January. In hindsight, was it a mistake to be stubborn and not agree to the U.S. request to delay our request?

[Ben-Aharon] We dealt with the substance of the request. It is a request aimed at helping the State of Israel absorb the Soviet aliyah. In principle, such a humanitarian issue should not be linked to political subjects, certainly not to the peace process, which might be a long and difficult process, and even marked by crises. We did not, therefore, find it right to delay the request. If the United States found it necessary to put it off and link it to the political issue, we very much regret it. We believe it was wrong and unjustified, but we accept the President's position, which the Senate also accepted, although 70 senators have already expressed their support for the legislation to extend loan guarantees to Israel.

[Yehimovich] A senior U.S. official is quoted as saying that Israel and the Jewish lobby in Washington suffered an extraordinary blow. Do you also believe Israel suffered a heavy blow?

[Ben-Aharon] I am put off by such terms. Even if the U.S. Administration got its way on that issue, it should not be seen as a battle between two conflicting bodies. The pro-Israeli lobby, after all, tries to help Israel in all matters of legislation on Capitol Hill. It does not regard itself—and should not be seen—as dueling with or confronting the administration. On the contrary, such a confrontation does not contribute anything and can only cause problems for us and the administration. This round ended with the lobby receiving 70 signatures from senators, which is neither easy nor insignificant. It is a demonstration of clear support for Israel and its aliyah needs, but at the same time it can be seen as a compromise and demonstration of support for the President's call to delay consideration of the legislation for four months.

[Yehimovich] There are reports that the preparations by the Prime Minister's Bureau for the peace conference continue. How do those preparations look? What is being done?

[Ben-Aharon] We are doing what we have to. In other words, there are several teams in the Foreign Ministry, the Prime Minister's Office, and the defense establishment—preparing papers, and a staff committee. They are taking into account the experience we have gained over the years. They are considering agreements reached in the past and their relevance to legal, military, and security matters. They are looking at the political aspect of each issue and the subjects with which the peace process will deal. At the same time, however, we are also in contact with the United States to prepare the ground for convening the preparatory regional conference and the direct negotiations. That is still going on.

[Yehimovich] Is there yet an exact date for the peace conference?

[Ben-Aharon] No, there is no date because, I believe, there are important things still not finalized with which the U.S. Administration is dealing. Those include the composition of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, which is perhaps of top priority.

[Yehimovich] In the latest reports, 29 October has been mentioned as the date.

[Ben-Aharon] We have no confirmation about that date, just as we have no confirmation about any other date.

[Yehimovich] I do not believe anybody disputes that Israeli-U.S. relations have known better times, which is a delicate way of putting it. So what can we do to get out of the crisis?

[Ben-Aharon] I believe we all understand that as Israel draws closer to a critical juncture on an important subject like the determination of its borders and its relations with its neighbors, points of friction crop up between ourselves and the United States. The United States never supported Israel's positions on anything to do with delineating borders, no matter which government was in power here. I remember well that even in 1969, the United States tried to determine the borders in a way that aroused the ire of the government then. That U.S. effort ended in failure, just as did a similar U.S. effort in 1982 to work out an agreement. We must therefore stand firm for our interests, despite all the friendship and relations between allies we have with the United States. We are talking about something vital to the existence, security, and future of the State of Israel. I hope we will manage to persuade the United States at least on the main points of our position on the peace

process. I hope we will stand together to try to benefit from the peace process and to reach agreements with our neighbors.

Readiness To Sign Missile Technology Treaty

TA0310130391 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 3 Oct 91 pp 1, 4

[Report by Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] The U.S. Administration has expressed its readiness to lift some of the restrictions imposed on Israel's defense exports a few months ago. 'AL HAMISHMAR was told by senior defense sources that this was achieved after the Israeli Government undertook to embrace the principles of the nonproliferation treaty governing the distribution of missile technology. Israel and the United States are scheduled to hold their annual strategic talks in Washington at the end of this month.

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 3 October, in a report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Ori Nir on pages A1 and 4, adds that the Israeli decision to sign the treaty followed "heavy U.S. pressure, accompanied by threats of sanctions, such as the closing of Pentagon bids to Israel's military industries." "Senior political sources have said that the drawn-out disputes with the United States on this issue were threatening to turn into another crisis between the two countries. According to them, the U.S. attitude—mainly that of Secretary of State James Baker—toward Israel was very harsh, and there was a feeling in the cabinet that 'the administration is out to get us'."]

Reserves Major General David 'Ivri, Defense Ministry director general, who visited Washington several weeks ago, discussed the issue with administration and Pentagon officials. He advised them of Israel's readiness to join the nonproliferation treaty on missile technology distribution, also called MTCR [Missile Technology Control Regime]. The official signing of the treaty will take place soon.

The U.S. pressure on Israel to sign the MTCR treaty became more intense after President Bush came out with his initiative. At present, a team of Israeli defense establishment officials and legal experts are busy analyzing the ramifications of Israel's joining the treaty and making preparations for the passing of new regulations that will require the approval of a Knesset subcommittee.

As reported by 'AL HAMISHMAR about a month ago, the U.S. Administration had imposed grave restrictions on parts of the State of Israel's defense exports. This step was expected to cause extensive personnel cuts in the defense industries. The move was made in the wake of a new U.S. policy and various legislative initiatives.

Defense elements have said that the U.S. policy applies to several other countries in Europe. As soon as Israel agreed to sign the MTCR treaty, however, the administration agreed to lift some of the restrictions imposed in the recent period.

The defense establishment and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] General Staff are preparing for the annual strategic talks, scheduled to be held in Washington at the end of the month. At the talks, named JPMG [Joint Political Military Group], Israel will submit a request to raise Israel's $1.8 billion in aid to $2 billion. The request will be officially explained by the need to preserve the purchasing power of the aid, which has eroded in recent years. The JPMG talks will also cover joint issues in the sphere of strategic cooperation between the two countries. Israel will also ask for an acceleration of the supply of spare parts and weaponry in the sum of $700 million, which had been approved by Congress.

Defense elements have said that, to date, the United States has given no indication regarding a possible intention to postpone the talks in view of the political situation. It will be recalled that last year, Secretary of State James Baker ordered the talks postponed in order to exert pressure on Israel.

Arens on U.S. Ties, Missile Accord

TA0310184291 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Shlomo Ganor and Dani Levi on 3 October—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Ganor] In your view, does the United States have a role in what is happening with Faysal al- Husayni and Hanan 'Ashrawi? Did the United States give them to understand that they would apply pressure on Israel not to put the two on trial [for allegedly attending the Palestine National Conference in Algiers]?

[Arens] I cannot speak for the U.S. Administration, but based on everything we have been told by representatives of the administration and Secretary Baker when he was here, I believe the answer is no. Mr. Baker understands, knows, and agrees that the PLO will not have any role in this conference, in the negotiations. I think he is also aware that if the PLO attempts to participate in one way or another, that will torpedo the peace process.

[Levi] Mr. Minister, how would you define Israeli-U.S. relations after the delay in the loan guarantees, the linkage with the settlement issue, and the pressure on the matter of missile technology proliferation?

[Arens] First of all, there is no pressure on us. I saw the reports in today's newspapers, and they are full of inaccuracies. There are differences between us on certain issues—not for the first time in Israeli-U.S. relations, nor for the last. I believe we should not make the mistake of exaggerating the differences between us and reaching the inaccurate conclusion that the very fabric of the strong

and special ties—which now exist and will continue to exist—between Israel and the United States is coming apart.

[Ganor] Can the United States still play the role of an honest broker?

[Arens] I must say I do not like the phrase honest broker. The United States is the leader of the community of democratic states and Israel is a member of that community, a small but not insignificant member, and the only democracy in the Middle East. We share mutual values and ideals with the United States, and therefore joint interests as well. It is difficult for me to see the United States as an honest broker between ourselves and totalitarian regimes. I believe the United States simply cannot be that. It automatically leans toward us because of the partnership between us.

[Ganor] To dwell for a moment on the matter of missile technology proliferation, I gather from your statements that Israel has not been pressured to join that convention.

[Arens] There was no need to pressure us. The United States took the initiative to prevent the spread of missile technology. As you clearly understand, we are interested in this just as much as the United States, perhaps even a little more.

[Levi] Can such controls not interfere with the development of the technology for the Arrow missile, for example?

[Arens] It has nothing to do with it. Here we are talking about attempts to control the distribution of technology from countries that possess that technology to countries that do not. Israel, as you know, has technology in that sphere, and has made great achievements. The Arrow program proves that point. We never hesitated to join the principles of a convention whose purpose is to prevent the spread of those technologies to countries that lack them.

[Ganor] Does this mean that Israel is joining the convention?

[Arens] We are not talking exactly about joining it, but about declaring that we adopt its principles. [passage omitted]

[Ganor] What is Israel's feeling about the UN probe of Iraq's nuclear capability?

[Arens] We realize that Saddam Husayn will make every effort he can to possess lethal weapons, and that if he has such weapons he will use them. We are preparing accordingly.

[Levi] Do you think that Israel can rely on the UN observers to find and destroy those weapons?

[Arens] If you are asking whether Israel has any other alternative, such as introducing Israeli inspectors into the area, that is not a realistic alternative. I would say that, considering the team's performance and that of the group leader, whom we saw on television, I think we should express all our appreciation for what appears to be a very thorough job requiring a great deal of courage.

[Levi] So does Israel reserve the option to act against the Iraqi launchers and missiles?

[Arens] We will do whatever we think needs to be done to guarantee Israel's security. [passage omitted]

[Levi] Is there any actual indication that the Syrians are refraining from abetting anti-Israel terrorism?

[Arens] No, to my deep regret there is no such indication, and some of the terrorist acts perpetrated from Lebanon are initiated by organizations that enjoy Syrian support. Some of them maintain their headquarters in Syria—in Damascus, to be more precise. The Syrians are evidently not doing anything to prevent those organizations from engaging in anti-Israel terrorist acts; they may even be behind those actions.

[Levi] You mean the latest incursions on the Golan Heights?

[Arens] We have witnessed two incursions by Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine on the Golan Heights in the past two months. That organization has headquarters in Damascus. [passage omitted]

Levi at UN Urges Arabs To End Arms Race

TA0310152191 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Oct 91 p A3

["Exclusive" report from New York by Shlomo Shamir]

[Excerpt] Addressing the UN General Assembly yesterday, Foreign Minister David Levi called on the Arab leaders to abandon the arms race and save the resources they invest in it. The foreign minister suggested that they join the chemical nonproliferation treaty in the region.

"On the eve of a regional peace conference," Levi said, "I appeal to the leaders of the Arab countries: Stop the mad race for weapons of destruction, contain the urge to ruin, let blind hatred go, do not scatter your resources in vain, do not exchange your countries' chances for progress and prosperity for the hallucination that Israel can be destroyed."

The foreign minister pointed out that "the elimination of chemical weapons all over the world, and especially in the Middle East, is of prime importance, which is why Israel expressed its readiness to join the chemical nonproliferation treaty. Yet in order for the treaty to be effective, all the countries in the area must join it."

In a speech to the Conference of Presidents of American Jewish Organizations yesterday, Levi disclosed that Secretary of State James Baker had rejected outright an

Arab demand that he insist that Israel freeze the settlement activity as a precondition for the convocation of the peace conference. Levi claimed that Baker told the Arabs he could not present such a condition because the United States is not demanding it.

The minister, addressing the General Assembly in French, began by wishing its president success.

Foreign Minister Levi mentioned that in a speech at the United Nations last September he warned that Israel would be the target for Saddam Husayn's attacks, and indeed it was attacked with missiles.

Levi said that the Iraqi despot continues to hoodwink the world and is trying to conceal the fact that his military strength is being rebuilt. Last year's events, he said, have opened the world's eyes to Israel's stature as the standard bearer for democracy in the Middle East and have simultaneously brought about a reevaluation of the Arab-Israeli conflict. "Many countries realize today that the root of the prolonged and bitter conflict is the refusal of the Arab countries, except for Egypt, to acknowledge Israel's existence and accept its sovereignty." At the same time, it has been demonstrated clearly that Israel is the only country in the world subjected to constant and real physical threats.

The foreign minister mentioned Israel's peace plan, which is based on five [as published] principles: limiting and monitoring the arms race, direct and unconditional negotiations toward a peace treaty between Israel and each of the Arab countries, a phased solution to the Palestinian problems in a joint framework with Jordan, and working out plans for regional development with international assistance.

Referring to the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism, he noted President Bush's appeal that the organization repeal the resolution, saying: "The clear demand of the President of the world's greatest democracy will continue to resonate within these halls and everywhere else, until that shameful resolution is repealed." [passage omitted]

Shamir, Aguda Knesset Members Discuss Peace

TA0410110291 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1039 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Agudat Yisra'el Knesset members met today with the prime minister to discuss the peace process and the political situation. Our correspondent Sarit Mikha'eli reports that Shamir believes that the chances are high that the opening session leading to direct negotiations will take place in late October, although there are still some problems, such as the composition of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the renewal of full diplomatic relations between Israel and the USSR.

Shamir said that Syria does not want a regional conference to discuss regional issues before bilateral negotiations end and before Syria gets the Golan Heights back, as it is demanding.

On the issue of early elections, the prime minister said today that he prefers to complete his term. We should aspire to elections once every four years, he said.

SHAS Backs Shamir, Opposes Early Elections

TA0410053691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] The SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] Party leadership convened last night and decided to endorse the advancement of the peace process in the way it is being conducted by Prime Minister Shamir. Qol Yisra'el's reporter says SHAS would consider backing early elections if initiated by the Likud, but would oppose an early ballot if promoted by the Labor Party.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 4 October reports that "most of the members of the SHAS leadership opposed taking any steps toward early elections at this time."]

Argentine President Continues Visit

More on Talks With Shamir

TA0310172891 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Oct 91 p 2

[Report by Tova Tzimuqi and Hemi Shalev]

[Excerpt] Argentine President Carlos Menem informed Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday that Argentina terminated its joint Condor missile project with Egypt and Iraq prior to the Gulf war.

In their meeting in Jerusalem, the guest said that Argentina is shifting from the Third World to the First World and mentioned the resumption of relations between Buenos Aires and Britain and South Africa. He added that Argentina also wishes to improve its relations with Israel and offered his assistance in mediating between Israel and the Arab countries.

Menem promised Shamir that in his upcoming visits to Egypt and Tunisia he will raise the issue of the Israeli POW's and MIA's. He will also raise that issue, as well as the subject of Syrian Jewry, in his future visit to Syria. Interviewed on Channel Two yesterday, Menem said that he had instructed his brother, who is Argentina's ambassador to Damascus, to raise those issues with the Syrian authorities.

Shamir and Menem agreed to regulate the two countries' trade, science, and technology ties by means of a joint committee and ministerial meetings. Shamir thanked Menem for his participation in the anti-Iraq campaign during the Gulf war and for the encouragement it offered Israel during that time. Shamir also expressed gratitude

for Argentina's stand on the repeal of the UN resolution that equates Zionism with racism and said he hopes Menem can make a contribution toward stemming hostility in the Middle East, thanks to, among other reasons, his "special background" as one born in Syria. [passage omitted]

To Give Peres Letter to Mubarak

TA0310202191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Argentine President Carlos Menem met this afternoon with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres. The two discussed the peace process. At the end of the meeting, Shim'on Peres told our correspondent Dan Eshel that he is sending a message to the Egyptian president via the Argentine president, who is scheduled to meet with him at the end of the week.

The Argentine president expressed support for Peres' plan for three-stage peace negotiations: an international conference, bilateral negotiations with the various countries, and a regional conference on economic issues.

Meets Bethlehem Mayor

TA0410115491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Argentine President Carlos Menem is due to conclude his official visit to Israel this afternoon. He will be going to Cairo from here where Menem hopes to meet with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to discuss the peace process.

This morning the Argentine president visited the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. He was greeted by the mayors of Bethlehem and Bayt Sahur.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1100 GMT on 4 October adds that when greeting President Menem, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj referred to the peace process. According to the radio, Frayj said that "talks are under way in Amman between the Palestinians and the Jordanians about the possibilities of forming a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. My sincere advice to the Palestinians is to make an effort to join the Jordanian delegation, because this will serve our goals."]

Argentina and Israel are interested in increasing trade between them. A memorandum of understanding was signed today in Jerusalem by Argentina's agriculture minister and the director general of Israel's Ministry of Industry and Trade. Argentina wants to increase its share of Israel's meat imports, and for its part Israel is interested in increasing electronic and aerospace equipment to Argentina.

Israeli exports to Argentina in the first half of 1991 totaled $12 million, a rise of 162 percent over last year.

No Fight in Likud Over Shamir Candidacy

TA0310203291 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] The Likud secretariat this evening turned down the proposal raised by Knesset Member Hayim Corfu that the issue of the party's candidate for prime minister be raised at the Likud Central Committee meeting in November. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that Minister Roni Milo said that Prime Minister Shamir is the chairman of the Likud movement and its candidate for prime minister, so there is no point in raising the issue.

Minister Moshe Arens, who is chairman of the Likud secretariat, said that the Likud Central Committee, which will convene next month, will be busy adopting the movement's constitution. It should therefore not be burdened with additional issues.

Olmert—Linking Aid to Politics 'Intolerable'

TA0310165891 Tel Aviv Educational Television Network in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Interview with Health Minister Ehud Olmert by Dan Margalit—live]

[Excerpt] [Margalit] Good evening, Health Minister Ehud Olmert.

[Olmert] Good evening.

[Margalit] The U.S. Congress has not lived up to our expectations and has deferred consideration of the loan guarantees Israel is seeking, thereby complying with President Bush's request, though not with the prime minister's. Do you see this as a defeat for Israel, a serious blow, or an error?

[Olmert] I disagree with those terms, and I believe that the terms used in the past few days do not reflect reality. The truth is that the cabinet was not a direct party to that power struggle because it did not conduct it publicly or intensively. The cabinet only presented its position. Israel's friends on Capitol Hill, however, for a variety of reasons and in view of the President's announcement, decided not to pursue the campaign to clash with the President and in fact accepted the deferral. In terms of which side was stronger, though....

[Margalit, interrupting] Were we neutral in that struggle?

[Olmert] We were not neutral, because we submitted our request; but we definitely did not engage in an intensive battle on the matter, because we did not wish to find ourselves caught between the President and Congress. The fact remains, however, that 64 senators were prepared to sign the request, despite the President's opposition. So to claim that it is a defeat when 64 senators, forming an absolute majority, support an issue that has to do with Israel, in opposition to the President's stand, seems to me a bit rash.

[Margalit] So was it perhaps a mistake and a miscalculated decision to push the matter?

[Olmert] I do not believe we could have acted any differently. If we had done something else, we would have in effect accepted the President's conclusion that aid for the immigrants is directly connected to the political issue. That is intolerable and unacceptable to us.

[Margalit] Does the panic that struck Jewish leaders in the United States not affect our position? Do you not think that it would be advisable to moderate the settlement momentum somewhat?

[Olmert] The settlement issue is on the public agenda and has been the focal point of our dispute with the United States for a long time. I believe that in the current situation—in light of the interpretation of the antisettlement drive as a veiled demand that Israel withdraw from all the territories—if Israel accepted the U.S. position, it would in effect be announcing an a priori withdrawal, even before the negotiations.

[Margalit] So there is no room for this type of moderation.

[Olmert] The issue is not moderation.

[Margalit] But I am asking you about it.

[Olmert] It is necessary to understand how things are perceived on the outside. When we set up a settlement that is entirely inside the Green Line, it raises an outcry as well and is portrayed as some form of provocation. This means that any announcement of a change of policy at this stage, on the eve of political negotiations, would imply acceptance of the demand in principle raised by all our opponents: that we withdraw to the 1967 lines.

[Margalit] Let me ask you about one more political issue: The report by television's political correspondent Gadi Sukenik last night is very conclusive: 'Ashrawi and Faysal al-Husayni were, in fact, in Algiers. Do you think there is room to start criminal proceedings against them?

[Olmert] Look, first of all, if the law has been broken....

[Margalit, interrupting] Indeed, if they were really in Algiers.

[Olmert] And if indeed we investigate any individual's contacts of this nature, then they should not be exempt from the investigation. As for how far the proceedings should go, and whether they should reach the stage of legal steps, that is another matter. But I see no reason why peace activist Abie Nathan should be investigated, but Faysal al-Husayni not. [passage omitted]

Moda'i Rejects 'Political Conditions' for Aid

TA0310154191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i says it is inconceivable for the United States to present political conditions for the loan guarantees Israel is seeking, which are plainly an economic issue. He claimed Israel has always fulfilled its financial obligations and will continue to do so in the future. The United States is not being asked to give us a grant or a loan, but only to underwrite the loan.

Our correspondent Gid'on Rotem reports that Moda'i also warned that inflation, if unchecked, can grow again. We must therefore make every effort to reduce inflation to the level acceptable in the West.

Agriculture Minister Leaves on Visit to Greece

TA0410095791 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Agriculture Minister Refa'el Eytan left on an official trip to Greece this morning. Our correspondent Ya'aqov Balsenboim reports that this is a reciprocal visit following the Greek agriculture minister's visit to Israel.

Cabinet Reshuffle Announced; 5 Ministers Replaced

JN0310183791 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1825 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] We have just received the following item from the newsroom:

This evening, there has been a reshuffle of Tahir al-Masri's government, whereby five ministers have left the cabinet. These ministers are Engineer Ra'if Najm, minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs; Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. 'Abdallah al-Nusur; Higher Education Minister Dr. Muhammad al-Hammuri; Salim al- Zu'bi, minister of municipal and rural affairs and environment; and Muhammad Faris al-Tarawinah, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

Meanwhile, a royal decree has appointed Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir to be the new minister of foreign affairs; Dr. Qasim 'Ubaydat, minister of state for cabinet affairs; Dr. Khalid al-Karaki, minister of culture and minister of higher education; His Eminence Shaykh 'Izz-al-Din al-Khatib al-Tamimi, minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs; Dr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq Tubayshat, minister of municipal and rural affairs and environment; and Mahmud al-Sharif as the new minister of information.

AFP: 'Partial Reshuffle'

NC0310184391 Paris AFP in English 1747 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Amman, Oct 3 (AFP)—Jordanian Prime Minister Tahir al-Masri carried out a partial reshuffle of his government Thursday, replacing Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Nusur and four other cabinet members and creating an Information Ministry, authoritative sources said. Al-Nusur, who resigned for reasons that were not immediately clear, was succeeded by Kamal Abu-Jabir.

In other moves al-Masri created the post of information minister, awarding the position to Mahmud al-Sharif, editor of the daily newspaper AL-DUSTUR.

The reshuffle, the first undertaken by al-Masri since he formed his government June 19, followed the resignation for political reasons of Rural and Municipal Affairs Minister Salim Zuhbi, Religious Affairs Minister Ra'if Najm, Cabinet Affairs Minister Muhammad Tarawinah and Higher Education Minister Muhammad Hammuri.

They were replaced by 'Abd-al-Razzaq Tubayshat, rural and municipal affairs, 'Izz-al-Din al-Khatib al-Tamimi, religious affairs, Qasim 'Ubaydat, cabinet affairs and Khalid Karaki, higher education.

The new foreign minister is the secretary general of the World Affairs Council, an association that analyzes international affairs.

A 59-year-old Christian, Abu-Jabir received a doctorate in political science and oriental studies in the United States. Al-Masri had been expected to reshuffle his cabinet for the past several days, but the move was delayed in the face of demands from deputies who had sought a more comprehensive shakeup.

Royal Decree Issued

JN0310192791 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] A royal decree has approved the reshuffle of Tahir al-Masri's government, accepting the resignation of the following ministers: Ra'if Najm, minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs; Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. 'Abdallah al-Nusur; Higher Education Minister Dr. Muhammad al-Hammuri; Salim al-Zu'bi, minister of municipal and rural affairs and environment; Muhammad Faris al-Tarawinah, minister of state for cabinet affairs

The following royal decree has also been issued: We, King Husayn I of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, under Article 35 of the Constitution, and in accordance with the recommendation of the prime minister, order the following:
Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir shall be appointed minister of foreign affairs;
Dr. Qasim 'Ubaydat shall be appointed minister of state for cabinet affairs;
Dr. Khalid al-Karaki shall be appointed minister of culture and minister of higher education;
His Eminence Shaykh 'Izz-al-Din al-Khatib al-Tamimi shall be minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs;
Dr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq Tubayshat shall be appointed minister of municipal and rural affairs and environment;
Mahmud al-Sharif shall be appointed minister of information.

Issued from our prosperous Basman Palace on 24 Rabi' Awwal, 1412 Hegira, corresponding to 3 October 1991.

The new ministers were sworn in before His Majesty King Husayn at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening. Attending the swearing-in ceremony were His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Tahir al-Masri, his majesty's political adviser, his highness the chief chamberlain, his majesty's military secretary, and his majesty's personal secretary.

Cabinet Meets Palestinians

JN0410065791 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Last night at the Prime Ministry, Prime Minister Tahir al-Masri received a Palestinian delegation led by Mahmud 'Abbas, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the PLO Pan-Arab Department and International Relations. The delegation arrived in Amman yesterday evening.

Members of the visiting delegation gave a briefing on the results of the Palestine National Council meetings held recently in Algiers. An extensive review of the various

international and regional efforts being exerted to convene a peace conference on the Middle East was then conducted.

The meeting was attended by 'Adnan Abu-'Awdah, the king's political adviser; Engineer 'Ali Suhaymat, deputy prime minister and minister of transport and communications; Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, minister of foreign affairs; Mahmud al-Sharif, minister of information; and Nabih al-Nimr, Jordan's ambassador in Cairo.

Representing the Palestinians at the meeting were Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, head of the PLO Information Department; 'Abdallah al-Hurani, head of the PLO Culture Department; Sulayman al-Najjab, PLO Executive Committee member; and al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, the Palestinian ambassador in Amman.

New Foreign Minister Views Peace Process

JN0410125391 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1200 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] The foreign minister, Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, said today Jordan's position with respect to the peace process is a constructive one and added that all parties concerned should participate to find a just and comprehensive peace settlement to the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian problem.

The foreign minister said that new international trend to establish peace in the region has evolved under new international conditions following the Gulf war and developments in the Soviet Union and the communist states.

Husayn Consults Political Figures on Issues

JN0210131591 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Our radio has learned from a reliable source that, over the past two days, King Husayn of Jordan has been holding extensive consultations with political figures in the country, in preparation for participation in the peace conference scheduled to convene toward the end of this month. The talks are designed so that all sides and beliefs can contribute to maintaining a climate that would enable the country to act while standing on firm ground. Moreover, King Husayn also intends to form a committee of advisers, particularly comprising former prime ministers, which would play an important role with regard to the issues concerning the nation. These consultations are taking place a few days before the speech expected to be delivered by King Husayn before nationalist figures to acquaint his people with the latest developments and keep them informed of what is taking place on both the Arab and world scenes.

In another development, thus far nothing has leaked regarding the reshuffle of Tahir al-Masri's cabinet, which was expected a few days ago. At a time when some deputies are demanding that a large-scale reshuffle take place—one that is not confined to the departure of the four resigning ministers—political sectors have spoken of a possible comprehensive change in the cabinet.

Few Viable Alternatives to Conference Seen

JN0410111091 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 4 Oct 91 p 1

[Editorial: "Through Peace, Do We Confiscate the Right of Future Generations To Fight?"]

[Text] Out of a sense of responsibility, we must all realize that words are neither deeds nor an alternative to action. We must not attempt to deceive ourselves or others by circulating a wrong idea based on the illusion that rejecting peace efforts is the path to liberating all occupied Arab soil. A comprehensive liberation is the objective of us all. It is our responsibility and that of all future generations. However, no one can claim that we will be able to achieve liberation now or in the foreseeable future. Neither can anyone claim that we will be completely unable to attain this objective in the future. In view of these two points, we must deal with the political efforts underway with a sense of awareness and confidence.

A lot of big talk is now being uttered, and no one can deny the right of its sources to do this. What is shocking, however, is that they realize—perhaps before many others—that they speak such words in an effort to present them as a deed or an alternative to action. They offer no alternatives whatsoever to what we should do about the efforts for settlement being presented to us. We know, before they do, that going to a peace conference does not mean coming out of it with all of the Arab occupied land, with all of the legitimate Arab rights, and with all of the aspirations of the Arab millions met. We also know that if we do not go to the conference, then no conference on any level will be held. This is what Israel wants and what it has been able to accomplish since 1967. The result is what we now hold in our hands: a great deal of Arab land has been swallowed, hundreds of thousands of Jews have emigrated and settled there, and the slogan of peace for peace has been raised instead of international legitimacy as represented in Resolutions 242 and 338 and in exchanging land for peace.

If anything is to be said now, then it should reflect a sense of responsibility rather than the aim of appearing to be more patriotic than others, even more than the original owners of the cause and those who through their steadfastness and sacrifice stressed their desire for a just peace and for breathing space after 25 years of wounds, suffering, and pain.

Going to the peace conference is not a forfeiture of the right of future generations. It is the most that our generation can do after what the imperialist forces have done in terms of striking at its power, dismembering its unity, almost completely destroying its capabilities, and

openly confiscating all its wealth and destiny. The alternative to going to the conference is not resorting to tanks, artillery, aircraft, and fleets. Rather, it is being satisfied with watching the rest of the scene unfold: the plundering of all occupied Arab soil, the settlement of Jewish emigrants, and the uprooting of the remaining steadfast people in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Golan Heights, casting them into the oblivion of weakness, disgrace, and Arab fragmentation.

Senate President on National Conference Issue

JN0310150791 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Jordanian sectors have begun to speak about a national conference that may be held on 10 October, during which His Majesty King Husayn would deliver an important speech. For more details on this subject, Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi told Radio Jordan the following:

[Begin al-Lawzi recording] [passage omitted] The intention is to convene a national meeting, which, according to the mass media, will be held on 10 October and during which His Majesty King Husayn will deliver a detailed speech defining the particular phases of this stage of the peace process, and the most important topics on which attention is being focused. Certainly, the most important of these issues is the peace conference, which deals with the Palestinian question and the basic topics that are of interest to people in Jordan and across the region.

Specifically, our country is facing fundamental issues, relating to reorganization here in Jordan, and having to tackle primary interests that are of concern to both citizens and government officials. These issues include dealing with financial and economic conditions; facing and solving the issues that affect the lives of people, such as unemployment and poverty; and realizing basic human needs such as water, production, development, the encouraging of investment and industry, securing fields and horizons that create job opportunities, and linking education with development and work. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Political Balance of Power in Amman Viewed

JN0210091791 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Oct 91 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "So That No Authority Takes the Responsibility of Another Authority"]

[Text] We do not believe there can be real practicing democracy, a real and wise expression of this democracy, or particular concern for consolidating or protecting it if these do not stem from the principle of separation of powers between the three authorities; the judicial, the legislative, and the executive. When there is a mix in the practice, expression, or the concern, it is democracy that suffers, losing the fence protecting it.

Based on this concept, the executive authority, under democracy, has no right to legislate, and also the legislative authority has no right to execute. With regard to the current efforts toward a just settlement of the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, a clear mixing of the legislative authority's responsibilities toward these efforts has developed in our society. It clearly appears that some circles in that authority are trying to assume the role of the executive authority on how to deal with these efforts, trespassing the role and responsibilities that have been defined by the Constitution for the legislative authority.

Saying what we do today does not mean that we support or reject the efforts toward a just settlement. We believe that support or opposition should only be for the results of these efforts. We say this to emphasize the right of the executive authority to fully practice its responsibilities, according to the Constitution and the national charter, and the right of the legislative authority to monitor this practice so as to support or reject what the executive authority concludes. Support and rejection here have nothing to do with rhetoric, but represent blessing or rejecting what agreements the government reaches. This is a preserved right for the legislative authority, which it has the right to practice in accordance with our Constitution. This means that the legislative authority cannot be a government whenever it wishes and a monitor of government when it wishes to be so. If this happens, the holy limits between the three authorities will collapse and confusion will replace awareness, order, discipline, and concord.

Every citizen has the right, in the democratic society, to state his view and to defend it in a responsible manner. It is also the right of any authority in the democratic society to practice its responsibility and to show concern for carrying out its duties with full awareness, courage, and commitment. When a citizen tries to prevent another citizen from practicing that right and when an authority seeks to prevent another authority from such a practice, this means that real repression and not real democracy is actually taking place. We hope that all will be aware of the reality and danger of the stage and that everyone sticks to his position in the march without trying to jump from this position to one which is not his. If something like this happens it will cost the homeland, the people, and the democracy a dear and dangerous price, and will not leave the opportunity for any party or viewpoint to win in our society, which we seek to build on a sound, comprehensive, and deep basis of political pluralism.

PNC Peace Conference Decision Examined

JN0310083591 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 3-4 Oct 91 pp 1, 5

["News Analysis" By Lamis K. Andoni: "PNC Nodded to Participation in Peace Conference But Also Left Room for Backtracking"]

[Text] The declaration of the Palestine National Council (PNC), which met in Algiers last week, gave a green light for Palestinian involvement in the U.S.-led peace process but stopped short of a full-fledged commitment to Palestinian participation in the proposed peace conference.

A reading of the declaration that won a majority vote of the Palestinian parliament-in-exile indicates that even though its writers refrained from using any conditional terms it nevertheless kept the door open for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to opt out if an adequate Palestinian representation at the conference was not guaranteed.

An adequate Palestinian representation, as outlined in the PNC resolutions, does not necessarily imply a direct or a visible PLO involvement in the process. Instead the PLO is seeking a formula that will ensure the representation as a nation vis-a-vis individuals who can be part of an Arab delegation.

Accordingly, the resolutions, reiterated previous PLO demands that it name a Palestinian delegation which should include Palestinians from the diaspora and from inside the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem, and determine the Palestinian negotiating position throughout the process.

"The PLO will be the reference point for the Palestine delegation," the final PNC statement said. The term "reference" is used to ensure that the Palestinian negotiating team represents its "government" i.e. the PLO, and to meet half way the American stipulation that the PLO play no direct role in the conference.

The PNC's terms of Palestinian representation have deliberately avoided a definition of the form of Palestinian participation, leaving the door wide open for the formation of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The leadership, however, was cautious not to commit itself to any form of participation and instead focused on the terms that will ensure a level of independent representation, according to Palestinian officials.

The PLO's insistence on adequate representation was not put forward as a condition—again to meet another American demand that the PNC's acceptance of the peace conference be unconditional. But the PNC's declaration has outlined an alternative mechanism that is supposed to allow the PLO to disengage Palestinians if need be.

According to this mechanism, a reading of the declaration shows the PLO leadership—in this case mainly the PLO Central Council—will have to reassess the peace process in the light of objectives outlined for each of the different stages.

Another aim behind the PNC's outlining of specific goals reflects Palestinian concern that the peace process will come to a halt at one stage without a final settlement of the Palestinian problem. The biggest fear, according to Palestinian officials, is that the process will end after getting to the transitional period, whereby there is supposed to be some sort of self-rule for the Palestinians, preventing them from seeking complete sovereignty.

PLO officials decline comment on whether the PLO will attempt to halt the process if these objectives—which were presented as conditions prior to the PNC—were not attained.

The PLO's deliberate refrain from making its position clear is one way of maintaining a margin for manoeuvre. Yet, at the same time, the response to the question will largely depend on many other factors which have influenced and still influence the PLO decision.

These factors include Palestinian public opinion, mainly in the Israeli-occupied territories, the internal balance of power, and the PLO's assessment of the minimum that it can afford to accept against increasingly external pressures which are emerging as a major element in PLO decision-making.

At least in theory, the PNC declaration gives the PLO a chance not to commit itself to Palestinian participation until the last minute.

PLO officials have been very clear at the PNC that an acceptance in principle of the peace process coupled with an attempt to negotiate for better terms, prior to a final commitment, could be the only option to save the PLO's role or to enable the Palestinians to press for Palestinian national rights at the negotiating table.

"We should not say yes or no—not now," Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan told the session twice, reflecting a broad implicit understanding among most trends that the PLO will have to come to terms with the American-led peace process and struggle to get a better deal.

But the question that poses itself is: Will the PLO be able to control the process in a way that will allow it to say yes and no? The resolutions tried "to control or more accurately to regulate the process" by defining specific objectives to the three phases of the peace process i.e. the preparatory phase, the transitional period, and the final stage supposedly leading to a final settlement.

The objectives defined for the first stage are in effect the key preconditions that, from the Palestinian viewpoint, will first determine Palestinian participation in the peace conference and will also serve as an important initial indicator to the direction of the peace process.

These objectives, which were mentioned in other resolutions, and emphasised by the PLO officials to be the key, are:
—A comprehensive and adequate Palestinian representation as mentioned earlier on.
—A halt in Israeli settlements.
—Arab Jerusalem will be considered, in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions, as an inseparable part of the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

It is difficult to tell what the minimum compromise that the PLO will accept on these three issues. The problem, as many officials point out, is that any compromise on any of these three issues can make the peace talks meaningless and reinforce Palestinian fears that the peace conference will only legitimise the status quo.

So far, although there has been no serious formal internal Palestinian discussions of the issue, there seems to be two views among those who have endorsed the PNC resolutions.

Some PLO officials argue that the absolute minimum that the organisation should accept is proper representation. If such an objective is secured then the Palestinians will put their fight for the rest of the goals at the negotiating table. Some will go so far as that if the PLO itself was accepted as a partner all other conditions will be dropped immediately.

But even this absolute minimum is debatable because there are different interpretations of the practical definition of "adequate or proper Palestinian representation."

There are PLO officials who argue in private for giving a mandate for the Palestinians in occupied territories to negotiate on their own. Although this view is endorsed by few important PLO members, it has no real support within the organisation.

The other school insists that all the three issues concerning Israeli settlements, representation, and the status of Jerusalem be solved prior to the conference so that the talks will go straight into the heart of the main issue —that of Israeli occupation and Palestinian rights in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

These there main questions will be addressed by Palestinian leaders Faysal al-Husayni and Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi at their next meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. [sentence as published] "We are awaiting the American administration's response to these three important questions," PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh told reporters immediately after the conclusion of the PNC.

The PLO's next step will heavily hinge on the awaited American clarifications. But recent American statements—to the effect that the PLO has not yet met the American conditions set for the resumption of the American dialogue with the organisation—indicated the U.S. might throw the ball back into the Palestinian court with more conditions.

Palestinian officials fear that the main condition the Americans are seeking, and which the PNC has definitely not satisfied, is for the organisation to practically relinquish its responsibility of the occupied territories.

The question of which party will declare the names was not a major source of contention among Palestinians at the PNC or even prior to the convening of the session.

'Informed Sources' on Fiscal 'Recommendations'

JN0210062691 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 2 Oct 91 pp 1, 5

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter]

[Text] Amman—An International Monetary Fund (IMF) delegation Tuesday submitted to the government a set of specific recommendations to address the deficit in Jordan's fiscal budget and to further absorb an IMF-prescribed restructuring programme into the Kingdom's economic policies, informed sources said.

The recommendations, drawn up after three weeks of discussions between the government and the IMF delegation as well as a team representing the World Bank, are believed to include removal of subsidies on foodstuffs, municipal water and several other areas and an increase in utility charges, such as telephone and power supply, as well as some other measures to reduce government expenditure.

No official confirmation was available on the issue, but the sources told the JORDAN TIMES that the government was expected to present its views on the recommendations to the visiting delegations before Friday.

"The main objective of the recommendations is to reduce the deficit in the budget, cut government expenditure and increase revenues," said one of the sources. "But no recommendation is binding on the government, which can exercise its own options as long as the net objective is served," added the source, who requested anonymity.

According to diplomatic sources, the very fact that the IMF and the World Bank had come to the discussion in a joint delegation is indicative of the sympathetic approach the two world bodies are adopting towards Jordan.

In general, said another source close to the talks, the IMF and World Bank negotiators were satisfied with Jordan's adherence to prevous agreements.

"Jordan has a very good track record as far as the IMF and the World Bank are concerned," said the source.

"The recommendations presented to government could be described as representing a vital turn in the course of the Jordanian economy," said the source who also preferred not to be identified. He declined to the be specific.

Other sources said points discussed during the delegations' talks in Amman included subsidies on foodstuffs, a moratorium on any increase in government salaries and creation of new jobs in the civil service and hikes in telephone, water and power supply service charges.

The recommendations come ahead of the finalisation of the draft fiscal budget for 1992, and the government's response to the IMF is expected to be reflected in the budget figures, analysts noted.

A green light from the IMF and the World Bank is essential for Jordan before it can resume debt rescheduling negotiations with foreign creditors.

The government, in line with earlier agreements with the IMF, has already cut down part of the subsidies by introducing a coupon system and a free market for imported meat. But officials have said that increasing the charges for drinking water was almost ruled out, while hikes in telephone and power supply could be considered, even though there is big opposition to such increases.

Asked whether the IMF and the World Bank were considering any low-cost loans to Jordan to help the Kingdom handle its balance of payments, one source said:

"Everything depends on the ongoing discussions and the government's response to the recommendations."

The source said the IMF and the World Bank were confident that the Gulf Arab states would gradually resume their financial assistance to Jordan. "It may not come tomorrow or the day after, but there is no doubt that Arab aid to Jordan will be resumed," the source said.

Conference Invitations Reportedly 'On Their Way'

NC0310171491 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Gennadiy Ilichev has said that the time and venue for the peace conference are not yet clear but that he hopes an agreement will be reached on these matters soon. The ambassador noted that the letters of invitation to the conference are on their way to the parties concerned.

Amal Leader Refuses To Cede Barracks to Army

NC0310171291 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Islamic Amal leader Husayn al-Musawi has refused to hand over the Shaykh 'Abdallah barracks in al-Biqa' to the Lebanese Army, telling the press: We need the barracks to train party members to fight Israel.

Al-Musawi said that he would not abandon the barracks unless South Lebanese Army Commander Major General Antoine Lahd withdraws from Marj 'Uyun.

Cabinet Praises Talks at United Nations

NC0210215691 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Excerpts] President Ilyas al-Hirawi chaired a cabinet meeting attended by Prime Minister 'Umar Karami and a number of ministers that began at 1730 and ended at 2140 today. The cabinet discussed the outcome of the president's visit to the United Nations and highly praised the achievements he made while there. [passage omitted]

Information Minister Dr. Albert Mansur read the following statement:

[Begin recording] At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency President al-Hirawi and Prime Minister Karami reviewed the outcome of the president's trip to the United Nations and the United States. The cabinet was briefed in detail on the contacts held with UN and U.S. officials and with the leaders of the Lebanese community in the United States. The cabinet highly praised the efforts that the Lebanese presidential delegation exerted to serve the Lebanese cause, particularly on the issue of liberating southern Lebanon from the Israeli occupation. The cabinet praised the Lebanese delegation's efforts to consolidate the official Lebanese position which calls for separating Security Council Resolution 425 from the peace conference. [passage omitted]

The cabinet also discussed environmental pollution in the Shikka area. The ministers of environment and education raised the issue, and the cabinet decided to force all [word indistinct] and chemical plants in Shikka and [name indistinct] to install filters in their factories to prevent pollution. The cabinet decided to convey this instruction to any factory that could be polluting the environment, and it charged the competent departments with following up on this issue quickly and seriously. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Hizballah Criticizes 'Arafat Approval of Proposals

NC0210200991 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Hizballah has accused Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat of selling out his people and his cause by accepting the U.S. proposals for convening the peace conference. Hizballah said that the real catastrophe is that 'Arafat has rushed to become the first to approve the settlement initiative.

SLA's Lahd Views Resolution 425 Implementation

NC0210122591 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0315 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] South Lebanese Army [SLA] Commander General Antoine Lahd has announced that the implementation of Resolution 425 is linked with security arrangements.

In a statement to the Voice of the South Radio, he asserted that Resolution 425 has nothing to do with Resolutions 242 and 338, which are based on the exchange of land for peace.

As far as he and the Israelis are concerned, he said, South Lebanon is a Lebanese territory, but the Lebanese Government must contact him and the Israelis to discuss practical measures to ensure security in the region. He said that before a contact is reached between the Lebanese Government and the Israelis, neither the Americans nor any one else can implement Resolution 425.

Al-Shar' Urges Pre-Conference Arab Summit

JN0410073091 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Hisham Milhim dispatch from New York]

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has said that an Arab summit of five states that are to participate in the peace conference will be held in Damascus shortly to strengthen cooperation and understanding among them on the eve of the conference.

Interviewed by Radio Monte Carlo, the Syrian foreign minister stated that immediately upon his return to Damascus he will begin preparations for such a summit in light of the support this idea had received from most of the parties concerned during meetings held among the Arab foreign ministers on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session in New York. Included among these meetings was the one held last Tuesday [1 October] under the patronage of Moroccan King Hassan II and attended by the foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb states and the Arab states concerned with the conference.

Al-Shar' said that during his recent contacts with King Husayn and President Husni Mubarak, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad had affirmed the need to coordinate Arab positions at the highest level before the conference begins. Al-Shar' noted that Jordan, the Palestinians, and Lebanon have all welcomed such a five-state summit.

Despite the fact that Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa's utterances have indicated that Egypt is not very enthusiastic about this summit, Arab League officials who participated in the New York meetings have asserted to Radio Monte Carlo that they expect Egypt to attend the five-state summit.

Official Cites 'Fixed' Negotiation Principles

PM0310152691 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 30 Sep 91 p 3

['Abdallah al-Dardari report: "Senior Syrian Official Tells AL-HAYAH: Damascus Will Not Join Peace Conference Without Knowing its Aims and Duration"]

[Text] Damascus—A senior Syrian official has told AL-HAYAH that Damascus "wants peace, will not abandon its fixed principles, and will not give Israel a free hand to blame us for the failure of the peace process." He added that "Syria's desire for peace is not a mere temporary tactic but a clear strategy, because peace would be a gain for us and a definite loss for Israel, which does not want to give up any of the territories that it occupies."

Asked about relations with the United States, he said: "President Bush has put forward a peace initiative on the same basis as we have long been requesting, namely, Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, land for peace, and the Palestinian people's legitimate political rights. (Therefore) we cannot object to it. On the contrary, we will do our best to ensure that the United States adheres to these four principles."

He said: "We will not abandon our fixed principles and we will not go to the conference without a clear picture of its aims and duration. These two points were the focus of the recent U.S.-Syrian talks. We do not accept that Israel should be allowed to offer its own interpretation of international legitimacy, with us making our own interpretation and with the balance of powers then deciding the result of the negotiations. Had the Security Council resolutions on the Gulf been left to the balance of powers between Kuwait and Iraq, Kuwait would still be occupied."

He stressed the "clarity" of the fixed principles in the Syrian position. "No separate solution, no solution that does not guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights of self-determination and independence, and no solution that does not lead to an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories."

He added: "We will not accept a solution that would prevent the coming generations from rising and restoring all rights or that would allow Israel to control the region's wealth and resources."

He said that "realism does not mean retreat, but Syria is not prepared to engage in a media confrontation with the United States over possible issues of contention between them, because that would give Israel a free hand to blame Syria for the failure of the peace process and to strengthen the anti-Syrian trends in the U.S. Administration and Congress."

He also said that Syria "might reject" President Bush's initiative on armaments or his call for the annulment of the resolution equating Zionism with racism, adding: "We do not consider it beneficial to ignite the situation in the Gulf, and we insist that nonconventional disarmament in the region should be comprehensive."

On the Palestine National Council's resolutions, he said: "We support what the Palestinians decide and we insist on their right to choose their representatives freely." He added: "We do not accept autonomy as the ceiling in the settlement of the Palestinian question, and we do not accept any ceding of Jerusalem."

U.S. Policy Said To Show Bias Toward Israel

JN0310071691 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 3 Oct 91

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The U.S. Middle East Policy and Captivity to Israel," AL-BA'TH says: Moves toward peace over the past few months have revealed many facts about Israel's refusal to solve the Middle East problem. Shamir is displeased with the U.S. Administration because, he believes, it has abandoned its obedience to

Israel and tried to pursue a policy not fully identical to Israel's. In Shamir's opinion, disobeying Israel means failing to meet the conditions for mediation between the Arabs and Israel, or for arbitration in their disagreements over the UN Charter and the Security Council resolutions.

After reviewing previous U.S. Administrations' prejudice toward Israel, the paper says Washington lost much as a result of its full bias toward Israel's injustice. The United States must show practical and concrete evidence to convince world public opinion of its credibility when it talks about international legitimacy and the necessity of implementing UN resolutions.

AL-BA'TH adds: Shamir and his clique are perhaps angry with President Bush because he is trying to regain the right to draw up U.S. foreign policy in Washington. However, the average Arab man needs tangible positions to convince him that the U.S. Administration does not antagonize him, conspire against him, or violate international legitimacy to give Israel his lands and rights. What the U.S. Administration has done so far, says the paper, does not suggest the U.S. policy is now free of Israel's captivity. The military, financial, and economic assistance Bush referred to in his press conference—when he complained about the pressure of the Zionist lobby—is continuing. U.S. attempts to settle Israel's demands, even at the expense of justice and the UN resolutions, have not stopped. And U.S. endeavors to convince the Palestinians and Arabs—under the slogan of removing obstacles to the conference—to make concessions even before the conference opens are continuing. Despite all that, Shamir's government continues to criticize the U.S. Administration and to try to place the U.S. Middle East policy in an iron cage surrounded from all directions by the star of David.

The paper concludes: Surrender to Israel's conditions will not bring peace. Also, Israel's rulers neither seek peace nor want to respect the resolutions of the United Nations and world legitimacy. On the other hand, the Arabs are sincerely and honestly moving toward peace; they are wishing the peace process success and hoping the conference will be held on the basis of the UN Charter and resolutions. The paper cites President Hafiz al-Asad's statement that without the return of the land to its owners, there will be no peace. This is a clear, firm, irrevocable, and unbargainable position because it represents the essence of the higher national and pan-Arb interests.

Ba'th Party Views U.S. 'Crimes' Against Iraq

JN0210165691 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio First Program Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] The Provisional Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command in Syria has strongly condemned the U.S. force's ugly crime of burying thousands of Iraqi soldiers alive. In a statement, the Regional Command asserted that the committing of this ugly massacre by the Bush administration came after the U.S. soldiers failed to confront the brave Iraqi soldiers in their trenches. The statement points out that this crime, admitted by U.S. officers, commanders, and soldiers, came to expose the brutal nature of the Bush administration. It has been discovered, the statement adds, that this massacre was planned with the knowledge and participation of Bush, his Secretary of Defense Cheney, and his war council.

The statement of the Provisional Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command in Syria condemns the provocative behavior of the Zionist American, David Kay, head of the sixth inspection team, and the team's negative impact on Iraq's scientific progress, despite Iraq's sincere cooperation with all similar teams. The statement also condemns the unjust U.S. siege imposed on the Iraqi people, as well as preventing medicine, food, and baby milk from reaching Iraq.

The statement stresses that time has proven that the premeditated imperialist aggression against Iraq was carried out to defend the Zionist entity and to humiliate the Arabs, strip them of their power, destroy their morale, open the way for the Zionist greed, resume direct military colonialism of the Arab homeland, and liquidate the central Arab cause in Palestine.

The statement calls on the Arab nation to mobilize its militant national and pan-Arab forces; to raise their resounding, unified voice to exercise their right to self-defense; to foil the big conspiracy; and to break the siege imposed on the Iraqi people.

Al-Shar' Meets With UN Chief, Other Ministers

JN0210184391 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1745 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] United Nations/New York, 2 Oct (SANA)—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in the presence of Diy'allah al-Fattal, Syria's permanent envoy to the United Nations, and Jean-Claude Aime, UN assistant secretary general for political affairs.

The meeting focused on efforts to convene the peace conference and on the UN role. The UN secretary general expressed his appreciation over Syria's policy and support for the UN role. After that, the minister met with Jean-Claude Aime, UN assistant secretary general. They discussed efforts to convene the peace conference.

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' also met this afternoon with Bulgarian Foreign Minister Viktor Vulkov. They discussed the international situation and bilateral relations. In addition, Foreign Minister al-Shar' met with Yemeni Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani. They discussed the international situation and regional developments.

Collapse of Socialism Due to Lack of 'Pluralism'

JN0210071391 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 2 Oct 91

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Glowing Dream," TISHRIN says: The collapse of the regimes that used to call themselves socialist in Eastern Europe does not mean the end of socialism and the collapse of socialist thinking. Rather, it signals the collapse of a pattern of socialist practice that will be rightly judged and assessed by history.

Since something good might come out of something bad, we say that what happened in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union has rendered a great service to international socialist thinking. This is because what happened in these countries revealed the serious defect that has affected some aspects of socialist practice, and clearly indicated the points of weakness and strength of this practice. Therefore, analyzing what has taken place in these countries will undoubtedly help socialist thinking to devise new formulas and ways of practice that are more capable of enduring development and change.

TISHRIN goes on to say: Specifically, the changes in Eastern Europe have shown that constructive social progress and strong economic structure, in addition to national accord, cannot be established unless they are based on the principle of political and economic pluralism. The disappearance of pluralism paralyzes great capabilities of the community, makes the authority unaware of what is happening, and separates the political movements from the masses.

TISHRIN adds: Here, specifically, the importance of the Corrective Movement led by struggler Hafiz al-Asad can be seen. This movement advanced the principle of political and economic pluralism almost two decades ago. It also devised methods for political and social development that proved capable of withstanding the toughest foreign pressures.

TISHRIN concludes: Saying that socialism has ended with the end of the ruling regimes in Eastern Europe is absolutely not true. This saying is used by some parties now to destroy the achievements won by the nations struggling for liberation, sabotage their national identity, and implant despair in their minds, as well as confiscate their hopes and dreams. The dream of building a prosperous, just socialist community will forever glow in the hearts and consciences of people, whatever the dark clouds and grave events. For no one can eliminate this human inclination toward what is right, good, and just.

Al-Zu'bi, EC Parliamentary Team Discuss Ties

JN2709063091 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] At 1030 today, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received a European parliamentary delegation led by Dimitrios Ntanias. Shakir Is'ayyid, head of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee at the People's Assembly, attended the meeting.

After welcoming the European parliamentary delegation, al-Zu'bi referred to the historical ties between the two shores of the Mediterranean. He said these ties make the urgent objectives of cooperation between Syria and the Arabs on the one hand, and the European nations on other, in need of constant follow-up so that common interests can be achieved. He stressed Syria's eagerness to consolidate its political, economic, and cultural relations with the EC and to translate cooperation through scientific means, especially since the spheres of this cooperation are wide and beneficial for Europe, Syria, and the Arabs. Al-Zu'bi stressed Europe's growing and important role in bolstering the regional peace process, especially at the current stage when the region is witnessing intensive international and Arab efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive peace to remove the roots of tension and the sources of threats to political, economic, and social stability in the region. He said that these efforts, which are supported by Syria, always collide with the obstacles Israel places before international legitimacy and the efforts being exerted to implement the UN resolutions and the international community's will.

Al-Zu'bi briefed the European parliamentary delegation on Syria's economic and social life, as well as Syria's ambitious development projects.

For his part, the head of the European parliamentary delegation thanked the prime minister for his comprehensive and clear explanation of Syria's internal and external policy. He expressed appreciation for Syria's sincere efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive peace in the region. He asserted Syria's important and effective role under President Hafiz al-Asad, who had a major and profound effect on European and world peace-loving public opinion, which hopes for security and stability in this region and the world. The head of the delegation also explained the policy objectives of the new and stronger Europe. He indicated that Europe is eager to promote ties with Syria and the Arabs, and to consolidate cooperation to promote relations in all fields.

Afterward, a discussion of all issues pertaining to Syria's development objectives, as well as Arab and international issues, took place. Al-Zu'bi answered a number of questions. The members of the delegation explained a number of matters pertaining to the promotion of the means and formulas of cooperation between Syria and the EC in all fields.

Afghanistan

Rebel Leaders Reject Return of Former King

BK0310153091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1514 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan Oct 3 (AFP)—Two important Afghan resistance leaders Thursday rejected any possibility of replacing the current president of the Kabul government by former King Zaher Shah.

Burhanuddin Rabbani, foreign minister of the rebel government in exile in this border Pakistani city, and Yunus Khales, a faction leader, also vowed to oppose any solution on the Afghan crisis imposed from the outside. "The Afghan mojahedin shall never accept the present puppet regime, the ex-king or any other figure sought to be imposed by outsiders," said Rabbani.

Rabbani, who leads the Jamiat Eslami faction, said a transitional government in Kabul must be composed of only mojahedin waging a jihad, or holy war, for the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan.

In a statement, Rabbani described the current Kabul regime as "garbage" left behind by the Soviet Army, which ended its military occupation of Afghanistan in 1989.

Khales, who leads the fundamentalist Hezb-e-Eslami, has claimed that unnamed forces were "conspiring against our jihad" in the name of peace. He said any attempt to impose Zaher Shah or Kabul President Najibollah's prime minister Fazl Haq Khaliqyar "will face strong mojahedin reaction."

Zaher Shah was responsible for paving the way for the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Khales was quoted as saying by the resistance's MIDIA [Media Information Department Of Islamic Afghanistan] news agency. In an implicit attack on moderate groups supporting the former king, Khales said "only a few people who took no part in jihad are backing his return."

The 76-year-old former monarch has lived in exile in Rome since his overthrow by his cousin Sardar Mohammed Daud in 1973. Najibollah recently restored the citizenship of Zaher Shah and his family, directing the Foreign Ministry to issue them with passports. The move was seen by Afghans as having Moscow's blessing. A pro-west resistance group, the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan (NIFA), has said that the former king could play a role in restoring peace in Afghanistan.

NIFA chief Syed Ahmed Gailani, along with the rebel government moderate president Sibghatullah Mojaddedi, met with Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin in New York earlier this week. Top leaders of fundamentalist groups, believing in the resistance's military victory, did not join Mojaddedi's trip to New York. Moscow has invited a resistance delegation for talks, but the composition of their team has not yet been decided.

Mojahedin Claim Fall of Major Town

BK0310153891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1530 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Oct 3 (AFP)—An Afghan resistance group claimed here Thursday that mojahedin fighters had captured the Said Karam district, which would amount to a significant advance towards the beleagured garrison city of Gardeyz. Said Karam, located eight kilometers (five miles) northeast of Gardeyz, fell late Thursday, said the Afghan News Agency (ANA), run by the Hezb-e-Eslami faction of fundamentalist leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Other sources had no immediate comments about the progress of the mojahedin offensive, which has been underway since Monday, amid claims by the Kabul regime Tuesday that the rebels had been repulsed.

ANA said Said Karam was the only district which obstructed the mojahedin's thrust from the northeast of Gardeyz, the capital of Kabul President Najibollah's home province of Paktia. It said an unspecified number of Afghan government soldiers were either killed or captured in fierce fighting for Said Karam.

The guerrillas also ambushed a regime convoy comprising 15 tanks and 200 soldiers bringing reinforcements for Gardeyz.

The resistance news agencies had earlier reported a devastating scud missile attack on Said Karam by the government, which gutted an ammunition depot.

Some Afghans suspected Tuesday's scud attack was a deliberate attempt to prevent the government's arsenal from falling into the hands of the mojahedin in case the troops withdrew. The mojahedin Thursday blocked all supply lines to prevent any reinforcements from reaching Gardeyz, which lies about 100 kilometers (60 miles) south of Kabul, ANA said predicting further "imminent gains" in the on-going battle.

The mojahedin targeted Gardeyz in an obvious bid to capture an important supply route for guerrillas operating in the suburbs of Kabul.

BAKHTAR Rounds Up Military Operations

LD0410081291 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0417 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 2 (BAKHTAR)—Twelve civilians were killed and 17 others wounded by 45 ground to ground rockets fired by extremists on the residential areas of Kabul City last week, a concerned military source reported to BAKHTAR today.

During the combing up operations of the armed forces carried out in the Kabul, Logar, Laghman, and other provinces of the country, scores of extremists were cleared and countless others wounded.

A quantity of arms and ammunition of the enemy including 15 Kalashnikovs, four pistols, 14 hand grenades, five kg of explosives, 20 cases of heavy machinegun bullets, 10 ground to ground rockets, and four cases of Zico-1 bullets were seized, and a rocket launcher, two hideouts, 10 vehicles of armaments and several strongholds of the enemy destroyed during this period.

Organs of the state security unearthed and seized 1.5 kgs of explosives and 3,000 hashish bushes in Kabul and Dadghis Provinces during the week. The bushes were destroyed.

Clashes taking place among the Jamiat, Harakft, Gulbuddin, Khalis, Mahaz, Sayaf and other extremists factions in the Badakhshan, Badghis, Balkh, Farah, Paktia and Vardak provinces took the lives of 68 extremists. Also, 50 extremists were wounded during the skirmishes.

An arms and ammunition depot belonging to the Jamiat group was blown up by the Gulbuddin supporters in Kunduz province.

Over 150 refugee families of 980 members returned from abroad to their abodes in the Helmand, Nangarhar and Kandarhar provinces.

Over 1,500 (including 500 armed men) joined national reconciliation policy in Kandahar province in this interval.

Notes number 2133-2141 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were brought to the attention of the office of the UN Secretary General in Afghanistan and Pakistan (OSGAP) as well.

Bangladesh

Government Repeals Presidential Election Ordinance

BK0310160391 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] The government has decided to repeal the ordinance relating to the presidential election. A press note issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice said there was no mala fide intention whatsoever in promulgating the ordinance. The opponents of the democratic force have been unnecessarily trying to confuse the people about the intention of the ordinance. However, to remove the misunderstanding from the public mind and to put at rest all unnecessary controversies, the government has decided to repeal the ordinance relating to the presidential election.

Foreign Minister Addresses UNGA Session

BK0310040891 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 0110 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Bangladesh has called upon the United Nations to help resolve regional disputes peacefully, promote disarmament, contain [words indistinct] forces, and strengthen the rule of law. The call was made by Foreign Minister Mustafizur Rahman while addressing the UN General Assembly in New York yesterday. He said the United Nations still remains the only forum where the member countries can meet the challenge of the future through their combined solidarity and willingness to do something. Mr. Mustafiz said human rights will become meaningless in the face of dire constraints of poverty, hunger, disease, and illiteracy. The foreign minister said for Bangladesh the fight against poverty and steps to unlock economic growth remains the foremost challenge. He said our experience has underlined that without democracy, people's potential for socioeconomic progress cannot flower. Equally, without improved standard of living and a vision of the future, democracy cannot survive.

India

Rao Promises To Aid Holding of Cambodian Polls

BK0310161091 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] India has assured Cambodia all possible assistance for overcoming its problems and has expressed the hope that the two countries will work together for a better world. This was conveyed by Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao during a meeting with the Cambodian prime minister, Mr. Hun Sen, in New Delhi today. Mr. Rao said New Delhi will, along with other countries, continue to play its role to ensure the sovereignty of Cambodia. Expressing happiness at the successful conclusion of the negotiating process, the prime minister hoped that the 20-year-old conflict will be over now. Regarding the United Nations Transitional Authority for Cambodia, Mr. Rao said if it is accepted, India will do its best to ensure that this mechanism functions effectively in the interest of the Cambodian people. India will extend all help to conduct elections in Cambodia. Mr. Rao assured the visiting prime minister that India will provide some food articles and medicines to flood victims.

The Cambodian prime minister, Mr. Hun Sen, gave a detailed assessment of the on-going process of consultations under the Paris Conference on Cambodia. Thanking India for its cooperation, he sought India's close involvement in the latter consequential developments following the signing of the peace agreement.

Rao Receives Iranian President's Message

LD0410040691 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 3, IRNA—President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's message was delivered to Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao by Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Pacific Affairs, Alaeddin Borujerdi, here today.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani's message underlined security in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf, and the

need for exchange of views between the two countries in the wake of current developments on the international scene.

During the meeting, Borujerdi briefed Rao on the outcome of his talks with Indian officials, latest developments in the Persian Gulf, and Iran's efforts for settlement of the Afghan issue.

Rao replied that there are ample opportunities for expansion of cooperation between the Islamic Republic and India.

He lauded Iran's "important and constructive role" during the Persian Gulf crisis, and said that India backs the independent and principled stance of the Islamic Republic in this regard.

Rao said Iran and India should maintain their "independent" policy, which has bright prospects for the two countries in the future.

Borujerdi arrived in New Delhi last Tuesday on a three-day visit.

Court Upholds Settlement in Union Carbide Case

BK0310101091 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] The Supreme Court has upheld the $470 million settlement in the Bhopal gas tragedy. The five-judge constitution bench today rejected all legal challenges to the settlement. Agencies say the court also observed that the quashing of criminal proceedings against the American multinational Union Carbide Corporation and its Indian subsidiary UCIL [Union Carbide India Limited] was not justified and should be processed under the law. It also directed the union government to decide the compensation amount for the victims in accordance with an earlier judgment of the apex court in a case from Gujarat. It also said the government should provide medical group insurance cover to 100,000 affected people. The court also said that the settlement amount of $470 million being held by the Reserve Bank under orders of the court be treated as part of the settlement fund. It directed the court registrar to take follow up action in this respect.

The judgment was delivered by the five-judge constitution bench in a crowded court room on a batch of review petitions filed on behalf of the victims pleading for a hearing before arriving at the final settlement. In July last, the supreme court began hearing on the petition challenging the settlement and the bench headed by the late chief justice, Sabyasachi Mukherjee, reserved the judgment after hearing the petition. In December last, the five-judge constitution bench headed by the chief justice, Mr. Justice Ranganath Mishra, had reserved the judgment on the review petition after hearing the case afresh.

Commonwealth Conference Favors Keeping Sanctions

BK2409093291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] Speakers of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference have cautioned against any unilateral lifting of sactions imposed against South Africa. They said only a cautious and step-by-step approach will help eradicate apartheid from South Africa.

In all, 17 delegates took part in the second plenary session of the conference in New Delhi this morning. The Zimbabwe delegate regretted that some countries have lifted the sanctions which will delay the process of reforms in South Africa. The British delegate felt that the economic sanctions should continue till the scars of apartheid are removed. The Indian delegate said New Delhi supports relaxation of sanctions in four stages as recommended by the Commonwealth foreign ministers.

Meeting Ends With Pledge for Peace

BK2809133691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference ended in New Delhi today with a call and renewed pledge by parliamentarians to work for peace, unity, and betterment of mankind. The closing ceremony also witnessed speakers praising the commitment to democracy in India.

The new president, Mr. Darrel Rolle of Bahamas, who took over from Shivraj Patil, president of the conference and the Lok Sabha speaker, said India was faced with many challenges, including the trauma of the assassination of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. But, he said, it prevailed over the challenges as it has strong root in democracy. Mr. Patil said the current gathering of delegates from small and big countries will help immensely to develop deep understanding of the problems faced by them. He hoped that the discussions in the panel and the plenary session would help mould the policies in their countries. He called upon them to unite for achieving peace and prosperity for all.

Iran

Velayati on Middle East, Gulf, U.S. Policy

LD0310215291 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in Persian 1645 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by unidentified moderator on the "Political Roundtable" program; date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] Greetings. As you know, the 46th UN General Assembly met recently. The respected foreign minister of our country took part in the meeting. He also talked with the foreign ministers of the six GCC member states on the periphery of the General

Assembly. Because the most important topics of discussion dealt with the seven sided talks, regional security, the Middle East peace conference, and the new world order, we have dedicated this week's roundtable discussions to the same issues. [passage omitted]

Mr. Velayati, regarding the regional security plan, it was said that—and you yourself have said—after the meeting you had with the six southern littoral Persian Gulf states, you achieved positive results regarding the Six-Plus-One plan. Does this mean that we will witness the realization of this issue in the near future?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. What was done was a positive step toward the objectives that the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] has regarding cooperation with the Arab regional states, and nothing else. Attaining the final objectives of the IRI and the regional states for some kind of sound regional cooperation is a long-term task which needs time and extensive, all-around effort. But this was a significant practical step. And for the first time we will have a meeting in the region and not on the periphery of an international gathering. Also for the first time the subject of commercial and economic cooperation has been raised. Some steps have been taken regarding the practical ways of realizing cooperation in various sectors. This task—the realization of such an objective—needs much work, as I said.

[Moderator] Will we witness this (?issue) in the third meeting or in later meetings?

[Velayati] Once again, it depends on the extent of our work and the opportunity that we have until the third session, which, God willing, will be held this year. That is, the more we work, the more the visits and consultations increase, the more serious we are, and the more determination and perseverance we have—all seven states—the greater the prospect of more progress in this field. But, undoubtedly, there is need for other sessions.

[Moderator] What is your view regarding the issue of Egypt and Syria and their participation in the regional peace and security plan?

[Velayati] This is a question that always is put to us by foreign correspondents and politicians. What we intend to have with the Arab states of the Persian Gulf area—as regional cooperation—is different from what they intended to have with Syria and Egypt. What I am telling you is based on what I have heard from the high-ranking officials of those countries. Some of the ministers of the important Persian Gulf region states have told me that, in reality, the Damascus meeting is a reexamination of the ways of Arab cooperation, which is different from what is in the existing Arab League Charter and perhaps it is a closer cooperation, commensurate with the new world situation and what has occurred in the Arab world within the last few months and the last few years. But what they have in mind about the IRI and what we have in mind, what they have in mind to do with the IRI and reciprocally the IRI with the Arab states of the Persian Gulf region, is some kind of regional cooperation, and as far as possible an all-around one, because all seven states are in the same region and very close to each other. We have other common points such as a common region, culture, history, and tradition between our people and the peoples of those states. These also play a determining role.

[Moderator] Does that mean that in the future we may witness two kinds of agreements, one an Arab-Arab agreement, and another a regional one? That is, a Six-Plus-Two agreement, and another a Six-Plus-One agreement?

[Velayati] So far my understanding of the issue is that which you have said.

[Moderator] On issues concerning Egypt, which we also mentioned earlier on, allow us to speak about political relations between our country and Egypt. Some political circles have mentioned that one of the main obstacles to a regional security agreement is the nonexistence of diplomatic ties between Iran and Egypt. Even during the past few days we were informed that Egypt is prepared to pay back its debts to Iran. What is your opinion of that?

[Velayati] Of course if Egypt pays back its debts to the IRI, we will welcome it and do our utmost to help the process. But that issue, that of paying back debts to the IRI, has no connection with the regional cooperation that we intend to establish in the Persian Gulf region.

Here, I refer to you previous question: We see no similarities between Iran's regional cooperation with the seven Persian Gulf Arab states on the one side, and the GCC's cooperation with Egypt and Syria on the other.

[Moderator] Here a question is raised regarding regional security. It appears from its name that the security is regional, that is, it should be between the countries of the region. But with America's presence in the region, and the new Kuwaiti agreement with it, what does that mean?

[Velayati] You see, the two points should be separated from one another. One is what Kuwait has done. That is the signing of an agreement with the Americans. Kuwait has signed a long-term military agreement with the United States. Another is the IRI's cooperation with the Arab countries of the region, or in a word, with the GCC.

In practice, we have separated those two issues from each other. That is, on the one hand we asked Kuwait for an explanation and we are awaiting its answer. We have formally called for that explanation on the basis of our Supreme National Security Council decision. The decision is a very logical and appropriate one. We always have announced our disagreement with the presence of foreign forces in the region. We believe that the presence of foreign forces in the region is an action that works against security. [passage omitted]

The recent action by the U.S. President is, in fact, more of a face-saving action for the U.S. Government. There is

no further reason for the continued presence of U.S. short-range and even medium-range missiles in Europe. That was something quite predictable. When the communist camp collapsed, and the Soviets announced that they would remove their forces from Europe, the Berlin Wall was broken down, and the Warsaw Pact no longer existed, no reason was left for the continued presence of U.S. forces, the forces that had extended their so-called defense protection over Western Europe.

[Moderator] Considering that point of view, will NATO then transfer its forces from Europe to the Middle East in general, and the Persian Gulf in particular?

[Velayati] I will tell you now. It was predictable that the Americans would leave the region sooner or later. The U.S. Government's new posture—the peace-loving pose and the withdrawal of short-range missiles—is nothing but a face-saving effort to meet the demands of the European governments.

I give you this example for this reason: The precedence has been set for the Persian Gulf and other regions of the globe. In other words, all countries know that the presence of foreign armed forces in their country, in their region, undermines security, stability, and peace. The same formula and view applies to the Persian Gulf. The presence of American forces in the Persian Gulf will not lead to security. This view is wrong, whoever may hold this imaginary view. This is our position with regard to Kuwait, the pact it has signed, and the presence of foreign forces in the region.

On the other hand, we seek a strategic objective: The countries of the region should have constructive cooperation. For such cooperation, trust must exist between us and those countries. The fundamental basis for the creation of cooperation is the establishment of trust. We will base cooperation upon this infrastructure of trust. If all-encompassing cooperation between Iran and the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf is established and moves forward, security will come to the region automatically. [passage omitted]

We must take practical steps to show the world and the countries of the region that we have practical proposals for the implementation of what we say if we want security established in this region by the countries of the region, if we say that the countries of the region should cooperate, and if we say that there must be no foreign forces in this region.

[Moderator] To what extent is there common ground between us and the other side?

[Velayati] Look, being neighbors in itself is common ground. The religion of Islam is another common ground. We have a common history, culture, and customs. If we want this established, that means practically implemented, we must broaden this common ground. We must take practical steps as well as elaborate our basic positions. Nothing will be solved if we just sit and talk, or say, issue a statement. [passage omitted]

Our most important strategic border is our southern coastline, the Persian Gulf region, the Straits of Hormuz, and the Sea of Oman.

This region is vital to us, just as it is vital to those six countries [of the GCC]. We cannot remain indifferent to the fate of this region. This does not mean that we take a certain position against any disorder and then think that we have performed our duty and relax. This is definitely wrong. It does not have a constructive aspect. [passage omitted]

Let me tell you this: The case is not that the countries of the region—whatever ideology they may have—enthusiastically want the presence of foreign forces in their country or their region. I did not get this feeling from my many meetings with them, nor from my studies of these countries. Even if a country differs from us politically, if their ruling system is different from ours, we can cooperate with them. However, no one welcomes the presence of foreign forces in his country or region, especially in the current climate. Either there exists genuine, basic reasons—faith and belief—for this lack of welcome or they want to escape from infamy. So, whatever the motive may be, the outcome is the same. Countries make mistakes: If they are not forced, they would not welcome the presence of foreign forces in the region. It limits the freedom of action of that very same rule, with its own special characteristics. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Mr. Velayati, regarding the Middle East peace, our official stance is clear. And it is clear that we are against the convening of the conference, just as the exalted leader of the revolution has graciously said. You also said in one of your interviews that, in principal, you believe the convening of such a conference to be unlikely. But, according to another prediction, considering that America supports the holding of such a conference, it definitely will be held. What are your reasons for such a prediction?

[Velayati] Maybe what you have said has not been carefully quoted. In my remarks I said that the success of that conference, as the Americans have depicted, is an unlikely event. But whether it convenes—there is that likelihood. And that likelihood is not insignificant either. I said in several interviews that the Israelis have given no concessions, and the only thing that they have said is that they are prepared to participate in the session, to take part in the talks. But they have not said so far that they accepted the American plan. Announcing readiness to participate is one thing and accepting the plan is another, because the acceptance of the plan necessitates the acceptance of Resolutions 242 and 338 as they are. And we know that Israel has openly declared that it does not accept the interpretation of those two resolutions by the United Nations and Arab states. Israel says that according to those resolutions Israel should have withdrawn from the occupied territories, and we have done so. The meaning intended by occupied territories was the Sinai desert and we have withdrawn from

there. The West Bank, Golan Heights, and eastern Jerusalem all belonged to Israel from the start and, in reality, we have taken back our own lands. They concoct such imaginary things in the interpretation of the resolutions that no other state, not even their staunch supporter, shares such imaginary concoctions with them. If it is so, then one side of the case that must act seriously is not at all prepared to budge even one millimeter from its former position. And its actions also move in the opposite direction. It earnestly pursues the construction of houses, townships, in the occupied territories—those lands it has occupied since the 1967 war.

From the IRI's point of view, we do not accept the partition of Palestine that was carried out in 1947, and see all the land where Israel is as occupied. We believe that the whole of Palestine must be liberated.

Now, what different Arab states mean by occupied territories is that sector that fell into Israeli hands in the 1967 war. Israel, in words as well as in deeds, has demonstrated that it is not prepared to withdraw from those lands. Therefore, there is no hope that the plan put forward by the Americans will be successful, according to the views of most Arab states and as the Americans themselves promise. The meeting may take place, but there are many leagues between the convening of the meeting and achieving the objectives that they have depicted. Those are the things that we understand in this issue.

As to why this has come about, I must say that incorrectly loaded goods never reach their destination. This is a simple, yet meaningful Persian proverb. From the start, when the struggle in Palestine was founded on something beside Islam, the wrong path of war was embarked upon. In no Islamic states does the experience of the past years demonstrate that nationalism can replace Islam. The people are ready to lay down their lives for Islam, but they are less prepared to die for nationalism or extreme patriotism.

[Moderator] Regarding our stance, and in support of our clear stance regarding the Middle East peace conference, what forces can we utilize apart from the Muslim's thoughts?

[Velayati] Palestinian forces themselves....[changes thought] We should not (?change) our positions. We currently support the Intifadah, that is the uprising of the people of Palestine, in practice and in our political stances. We support those who play an active part in the uprising. Two important groups participate in that uprising. One is Hamas and the other is Islamic Jihad; both of them have announced their rejection of that plan.

Israel and its supporters are still confused about the Palestinian people's uprising, the Intifadah, despite all the years that have gone by since it began in the land of Palestine with the use of stones, that is, the people are armed with stones and slings while the Israeli soldiers are armed with the most advanced weapons. They have been defeated in many of their goals. And if it were not for the tragedy that was created by Iraq in this region, Israel never would have dared to raise its head once again and so ruthlessly suppress the Palestinian people's uprising, and all this with no one in the world making a single objection to it. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Finally, along the same lines, how do you assess the setting up of the conference in support of Palestine in Tehran? Very briefly please.

[Velayati] The setting up of such a conference in Tehran is very significant in such a disappointing situation in which, unfortunately, many do not have the courage to announce their appropriate support for Palestinian aspirations. It should be said that it enjoys a very high strategic importance.

[Moderator] Mr. Velayati, in your opinion, what will the new world order be?

[Velayati] The previous order—the order after World War II and Yalta—was bipolar. Now the bipolar order has collapsed. There are two views: One says that the future of the world will be based on a single-pole order; in other words, a pyramid with one superpower at the top. The other view states that the future of the world depends on a multipolar order.

From my point of view, based on existing realities, even though one superpower exists now that dictates its viewpoints on the different regions of the world and international circles—or at least tries to dictate—this state of affairs will not last long. There are various reasons for this. This is not just a wish or aspiration. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] In any case, Mr. Velayati, this transition period is going to take a few years, some say 10 years.

[Velayati] Ten years may not be based on a realistic time scale. Currently, when the world is revolving around one pole, we can see policy differences between stronger and weaker countries. What is said is different from what is practiced. If the American view is to be implemented everywhere in the world without any resistance, the world right now would be a different place. We can practically see fundamental differences, sometimes hidden and sometimes partially hidden, in the position of some European countries and America, even in the policies of Latin America and the United States. [passage omitted]

We have advanced our economic cooperation with Latin American and European countries. The Americans do not like the taste of this cooperation between the IRI and a number of those countries. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] There are, however, examples opposite to this. With regard to Europe, the Germans, they did not complete the Bushehr nuclear power station; or the issue of the financial dispute between Iran and France, which remains unsolved. Or the sale of aircraft to Iran by the British.

[Velayati] Regarding the purchase of aircraft, we did not have any difficulties; at least from some European countries. Recently the IRI's airlines purchased a number of planes with equanimity from some European countries. And when we say that there is no servant-master relationship between the Europeans and the Americans, it does not mean that you can see a complete distinction between their policies. No, fundamentally issues are not in black and white in politics. Issues must be regarded as a spectrum. They are not absolute. Absolutism in practical matters, including in the practical issues of foreign policy, definitely leads one to mistakes and deviation. On the other hand—if your program will allow—I could mention many instances where we ourselves were involved, it relates to ourselves, or our region, or places we are involved in, and where some states are known for following America but have had, and still have, differing stances from the Americans. And, if the Americans can, they will stop them. But, clearly, this is not so. Even today—which we consider to be a transition period—it is not possible for the Americans to do what they wish. Let me tell you that for practical considerations, the world's future is written by regional cooperation and the existing competitiveness. The economic competitiveness itself between the countries which manufacture industrial materials is a fundamental issue.

[Moderator] I thank you. [passage omitted]

Khamene'i Rescinds Dorm Evacuation Order

NC0410090791 Tehran ABRAR in Persian 11 Sep 91 p 1

[Editorial: "Issuing Orders To Vacate and Not Understanding Conditions"]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, esteemed leader of the revolution, lifted the order to evacuate the women's dormitory at the Martyr Besharati Medical Sciences University and the students were allowed to return.

The dormitory is home to 280 students and is occupied by women studying at the Martyr Besharati Medical Sciences University for four years. The evacuation order was issued early Monday, 9 September. Personal belongings were thrown out on the sidewalk, to the amazement of the women, who were new to the city. They were stunned and did not know what to do, as it was the eve of the new academic year. By sunset, sadness replaced confusion and the students were left lonely and oppressed in the dark in front of a pile of their belongings, some beds, and bedding.

This scene of the oppression of helpless and distressed women standing on the sidewalk in the middle of the night is not attractive, especially under the Islamic Government of Iran. One can see their sadness and curse the evacuation order, which was issued without taking the country's conditions into consideration.

One would think that with its new management and the extraordinary sensitivity it shows, the judiciary branch would be more careful and attentive, and would consider the country's conditions and people's problems, especially the problems of the valuable student population. Fortunately, by the orders of the esteemed leader and through the efforts of officials in the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education, the order to evacuate the dormitory was lifted and the women returned. Does the person who issued the order know how unfavorable it is in the eyes of the public, what the impact of the homelessness of women students in the middle of the night is, and what negative propaganda impact it can have?

Iraq Accused of Cease-Fire Violations

LD0410035891 Tehran IRNA in English 0618 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] United Nations, New York, Oct. 3, IRNA—Iran's permanent envoy to the United Nations Kamal Kharrazi said in two letters to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Wednesday that during July and August Iraq had violated a ceasefire agreement between Iran-Iraq at least 21 times. The two letters which were published here as UN documents listed the dates and data of each violation.

He said the Iraqis had built a group bunker for advancement to the Iranian side of the border in Helaleh, pulled one Army tank too near to the Iranian town Naftshahr, deployed ten Iraqi soldiers near Qasr-e Shirin of Iran, dug trenches near the border, and engaged in unwarranted reconnaissance and mine-laying operations near the border.

The letter of the Iranian envoy to the United Nations also said that in Mayheh, a border point between the two countries, on 28 July seven Iraqi soldiers had been seen wearing gas masks in operations exercise.

Kharrazi said on August 13 a convoy of Iraqi troops infiltrated the Iranian soil near Qasr-e Shirin but retreated as they encountered Iranian border guards.

Meanwhile the Iraqi envoy to the UN has accused Iran of having violated the ceasefire agreement 22 times between 4-22 September.

More Kurds Repatriated to Iran From Iraq

LD0310013291 Tehran IRNA in English 1601 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Bakhtaran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Some 500 more Iranian Kurds who had fled to Iraq at the start of the imposed war over a decade ago, returned to the Islamic Republic through the Khosrovi border point Wednesday.

This brings to 900 the number of Kurds repatriated to Iran from Iraq over the past three days.

Some 30,000 Kurds mostly from Iran's western border areas had crossed over to Ba'athist Iraq in the early days of the invasion of the Islamic Republic.

Double Standards Seen in U.S. Mideast Policy

LD0310190191 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Publication of certain reports on direct contacts of some U.S. members of the UN nuclear inspectors team in Iraq with the U.S. State Department, apart from creating tensions between America and the UN, has also noted some new issues. According to information, the UN has admonished its nuclear inspection team on the ground that during its stay in Iraq, it directly informed America about the result of its inquiry.

In an initial approach to this issue, the U.S. State Department spokeswoman, while describing this measure of the UN inspection team as inappropriate, has expressed regret at it. In the same connection, the U.S. State Department spokeswoman, Margaret Tutwiler, in an official statement, while admitting the occurrence of such contacts and assuring that similar contacts take place on a daily basis between the UN personnel in New York, Geneva, and Vienna and [words indistinct] Iraqi installations, said that such measures will also recur in future. She at the same time backed the move of the UN inspectors team.

However, these comments, which have been expressed in defense of the illegal acts of the UN inspection team's American members, have apparently brought about a shift in the earlier stands of the United Nations. The reason is that initial statement of the UN secretary general—to the effect that in the event it is established that the UN inspectors have directly dispatched a document on Iraq's nuclear program to Washington, their action will be strongly denounced—was amended later. In a subsequent comment, the UN chief only sufficed to say that the inspectors are to have submitted the report to the United Nations first. This change of tone by the UN secretary general denotes U.S. (?innovation) in the current affairs of the United Nations and its influence in that body's decisions, which became further evident during the Persian Gulf crisis and war.

Appointment of an American as the deputy chief of the disarmament team in Iraq apparently is another part of the U.S. efforts aimed at unilateral disarmament of the Middle East. Insistence of the White House on enforcing all the UN Security Council resolutions in the case of Iraq have recoursed to various mechanisms for compelling Baghdad to comply with them. In view of Washington's indifference toward enforcing similar resolutions issued by the Security Council against Israeli occupation, [this] clearly shows double standards in the U.S. policies.

Therefore, exclusion of Israel from the disarmament process in the Middle East by America and lack of sensitivity toward the nuclear resources and capabilities of the Zionist regime—in the light of failure by Tel Aviv to sign a treaty on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons—have added to the concerns over the current policies of Washington. Therefore, the double standards being followed by America in enforcing Security Council resolutions and Washington's unilateral moves on disarmament in the Middle East, in consideration of the American diplomacy in convening the so-called Middle East peace conference, sort of throw light on the perspective of the structure which Washington is seeking to create in the Middle East.

Yazdi on Conviction of Freedom Movement Members

LD0210105291 Tehran IRNA in English 0927 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Head of the Judiciary Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi Wednesday refuted allegations of foreign sources that conviction of eight members of the banned 'Society for Defence of Freedom' was due to signing an insulting open letter addressed to the president. Ayatollah Yazdi's remark was part of an interview given to the morning daily 'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI', which was printed Wednesday morning.

He said that the International Affairs Department of the Judiciary had received a variety of letters from various people in connection with the cases of several members of the society. The society was formed in 1985 by the first post-revolution Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan and his associates.

According to Ayatollah Yazdi, one of the prime responsibilities of the department is to give proper responses to such letters. "To all these letters a single reply was sent in which it was stressed that conviction of the group of eight had nothing to do with their letter to the president. Otherwise, all the signatories should have been arrested," Ayatollah Yazdi told the paper.

The ayatollah was referring to a letter signed by 90 members of the society, eight of whom were arrested in 1990 charged with participation in gatherings and collaborating to take actions against internal and external security of the country. Common charges against the eight included siding with internal and external enemies of the Islamic revolution, connections with foreign radios active against the Islamic revolution, destroying and weakening the morale of the people and making them distrustful towards the Islamic republic system by promulgating rumors.

He noted that the human rights organization and Amnesty International had been the two international bodies which had the most correspondence with the said department. "Of course", he added, "their correspondence had recently been reduced partly due to the positive responses they had received and partly due to Mr. Galindo Pohl's visits to our country with the coordination of the Foreign Ministry."

He noted that the subject of human rights was reviewed separately by the department "because we believe that

Islam enjoys the richest legal sources and supports and observes human rights more than any other school of thought."

Majles Passes Law on Relocating Companies

LD0310013791 Tehran IRNA in English 1506 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Government-affiliated companies and factories, including repossessions, operating principally out of Tehran or having plants out of the capital have five years to close down their Tehran office and relocate to their principal business area according to an act passed by the Majles Wednesday.

The new law says the enjoyment by such companies of public sector facilities would be pending their relocation to their out-of-Tehran operation venue.

In addition, it says, any such company opting to comply with the law act sooner than the deadline will enjoy a priority for getting government-aided facilities.

Pakistan

UN Head Urged To Help Resolve Kashmir Dispute

BK0410083691 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Pakistan has urged the United Nations secretary general, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, to use his good offices for progress toward a peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute. The call was made by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Kanjoo, during a meeting with the UN chief in New York last night. Mr. Siddique Kanjoo also called for implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions that provide for the UN-sponsored plebiscite to enable the Kashmiri people to decide their future. APP quoting UN and Pakistani officials said the UN secretary general gave an assurance that he would do his best to encourage a peaceful resolution of the long-standing dispute. They also discussed the Afghanistan issue. According to the officials, there was general agreement that individuals should not stand in the way of an intra-Afghan dialogue and a political settlement. The two sides agreed that prospects of a peaceful settlement in Afghanistan had improved in the light of latest developments.

Commentary on UN Role

BK0310162991 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Mohammad Yamin commentary: "Pakistan's Stand on Kashmir Issue at the UN General Assembly]

[Text] While a number of complex international issues have been resolved during recent years, including the cold war between the two superpowers, the Kashmir dispute continues with (?vigor) and remains a potential flash point disturbing world peace and upsetting regional stability. The problem stems from the unwise approach by the then-princely ruler of the state to India for accession in the wake of the lapse of the British paramountcy over pre-independent India and an equally shortsighted decision by the Indian Government to accept the ruler's request, notwithstanding the fact that the predominantly Muslim majority of the state's population had already revolted against the non-Muslim ruler and a considerable area of the state had been liberated and a free government had been installed there. Having hastened to send its forces into Kashmir after suffering reverses on the ground, India was forced to take the case to the United Nations. India offered an immediate cease-fire in return for a plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir to ascertain whether the people of the state wish to accede to India or Pakistan. Later events, however, proved that this was an Indian ploy to get out of a tight corner for the time being and to wriggle out of its own solemn commitment with regard to the plebiscite in Kashmir, despite its acceptance of numerous resolutions of the world body on the issue.

It is this intransigence on India's part which has led to wars between India and Pakistan. India has also rebuffed all Pakistani attempts to hold a meaningful dialogue to negotiate a just and lasting settlement of the problem. Also, despite its disproportionately heavy military deployment in the occupied territory, and unprecedented brutalities and human rights violations by the Indian troops, the heroic struggle of the Kashmiri freedom fighters continues unabated. While this struggle is purely indigenous and spontaneous, Pakistan cannot remain totally unaffected by the sufferings of their own brethren in the held state, with whom Pakistanis have unshakable links of religion, culture, history, and blood relationship. Also, there has been an unending trail of refugees from Kashmir entering Azad Kashmir in Pakistan. This has assumed alarming proportion during the last two years, which have witnessed a new fervor and vigor among the people of the occupied territory to liberate their homeland when persecution by the Indian occupation forces has increased day by day.

In these circumstances, Pakistan was left with no option but to reactivate the Kashmir case at the United Nations. Accordingly, Pakistan's minister of state for foreign affairs has, in his address to the UN General Assembly the other day, drawn the world body's attention to the gravity of the situation in the occupied state and urged the international community to exert its pressure on India to desist from the use of force in Jammu and Kashmir and allow the people of the state to exercise their right to self-determination. As pointed out by the Pakistani state minister, the Indian atrocities, human rights violations, and attempts at terrorizing and suppressing the Kashmiri people are no longer a secret and are acknowledged by their own media and human rights organizations as well. India's attempts to blame the freedom movement in Kashmir on Pakistan also failed and remained unconvincing, because India rejected Pakistan's proposal to station international observers on the line of control to monitor the situation inside Kashmir.

It is in the interest of India's own stability and economic well-being that it should adopt a reasonable attitude and respond to Pakistan's efforts for resolving the dispute in a peaceful manner. Pakistan has raised the issue at the United Nations to urge the world body to convince India of just that.

Editorial Urges Facilitating Japanese Investment

BK0310110491 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Oct 91 p 6

[Editorial: "A Japanese view of our credibility"]

[Text] The Japanese ambassador in Pakistan Mr. Muraoka while addressing the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Lahore on Monday [30 September], said, "The Japan Government feels that the Nawaz Sharif government will not survive any longer." He went on to say that this was also his personal impression. He added that, "Japan's investors are not interested to invest in Pakistan because of three major incidents i.e. the kidnapping of Japanese students, cancellation of Toyota Company licence and postponement of the Prime Minister's visit to Japan. The Japanese envoy said Japanese in vestors were looking for a suitable country to invest in and if Pakistan became a politically stable and peaceful country, it would be an ideal choice for them. Mr. Muraoka made it clear that Pakistan was still one of the best and most suitable countries in this region for foreign investment for various reasons. It is abundantly clear that this country does not hold any terrors for Japanese investors, only the policies of the incumbent government. [sentence as published]

Mr Nawaz Sharif and his government should take time to consider why it became necessary for the Japanese Government to express disapproval of their policies through its envoy to this country and at an important place like the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry at that. Perhaps it would be an exercise in futility to remind the prime minister that this time such scathing criticism is not being directed against his government by the opposition in the country but from a country with which Pakistan has the best of diplomatic relations and wherefrom it hopes to attract much foreign investment. It should also be a matter of no small concern that such harsh censure has originated with the Japanese, at all times the most cautious and courteous of people.

Today there is no technology in the world in which Japan takes a back seat to any other nation in the world. Barring technologies which cannot be transferred to Pakistan because of international agreements, the Japanese are willing to pass on other expertise to Pakistan and this can only be to the ultimate benefit of this country. The Japanese envoy has specifically mentioned cooperation in respect of the garment industry. If only the policies of the present government had not ended up in messing up things to the extent they have, here was a golden opportunity for us to gain through meaningful cooperation with the Japanese. It is still not too late for our government to try and assure the Japanese that the situation is not irretrievable and for our part we shall try and eliminate all cause for concern that the Japanese Government may have. In order for this to be done, our policy makers at the Centre will have to go in for serious introspection and revise their policies drastically.

Fazl Haq Killed; Son Accuses Pro-Iranian Party

BK0310134291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1314 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Oct 3 (AFP)—Unidentified assailants shot dead here Thursday former provincial governor Lieutenant General Fazl Haq, a top leader of the ruling Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI), officials said.

Haq, 63, died instantly when gunmen ambushed his car around 2:00 p.m. (0900 GMT) in the posh district where he resided, the Defence Colony. His driver and guard were seriously wounded with shots and hospital sources said they were unconscious.

The assassination, described by some police officials as the act of well-trained commandos, sent a shock wave across the country where law and order is threatened by recurring violence and political and sectarian murders.

Police had no immediate clue about the identity of the assailants, who escaped in a car after firing bursts from automatic weapons at the late general's vehicle. No arrest was reported. According to police sources, the attackers opened fire as the car slowed at a speed breaker to enter a side lane. At least 35 bullets pierced the vehicle, killing Haq, who was occupying the front seat. Haq was returning home from a provincial assembly session.

Haq served as martial law administrator and governor of the North West Frontier Province during the 11-year military rule of former President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, also a general. He had recently relinquished his senate seat and was elected member of the provincial assembly to play a leading role in his home province. A close associate of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Haq was returned from Malakand constituency, bordering Afghanistan, on the IJI ticket.

Haq was arrested on July 22, 1989 for alleged complicity in the murder of Pakistani Shiite community's top religious leader Arif Hussain al-Hussaini in Peshawar on August 5, 1988. He was later released on bail. Shiite militants, claiming that the former governor was using his influence in delaying the trial, had demanded Haq's arrest.

His son, Arshad Khan, accused Shiite political party Tehreek Nifaz Fiqah-e-Jafria (TNFJ) of murdering his father. Talking to newsmen here he alleged that a murder conspiracy was hatched at a Peshawar meeting of the

TNFJ last month which he claimed was attended by an Iranian diplomat. The pro-Iranian TNFJ, a member of Benazir Bhutto's Peoples Democratic Alliance (PDA), is bitterly opposed by Sunni militants Anjuman Sipah-e-Sahaba (ASS).

Arshad told newsmen at his residence that the Interior Ministry had recently informed the provincial government that an extremist group was planning Haq's murder. But the local administration did not take security precautions despite the directive, he alleged.

The Province's Home Minister Nawabzada Mohsin Ali, who was also present at Haq's residence, said he had no knowledge of the communication.

It was not clear if the assasination had sectarian connection, observers said.

As provincial head of the IJI's dominant group, the Pakistan Muslim League, Haq was also an aspirant for the chief ministership and had other rivals in the province's politics. Three of his close relatives—his sister, brother-in-law and a niece—were killed here in May in shooting linked by police to a family feud.

Foreign press reports alleged several years ago that he was suspected of having links with drug barons in his province, known for poppy growing.

Jewish 'Involvement' in CIA, KGB Viewed

BK0410001291 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Oct 91 p 6, 7

[By Shahid Aziz]

[Text] An interesting development in the Soviet Union is the resolve of Moscow to dismantle its huge military machine. The USSR is now ready to sell its defence industry in toto. Everything has been put on sell including armoured cars, space capsules, fighter engines, tanks and even the most advanced fighter bombers like the MiG-29. The Soviets declared that they were ready to sell their weapons to anybody who is willing to pay cash, excluding Iraq. A special offer was given to Israel to acquire more tools of destruction, even the MiG-31 was offered to Tel Aviv with Moscow boasting that only three MiG-31 were enough to defend Israel, implying that with 30 MiG-31s, the Zionist entity can achieve its cherished dream of Greater Israel from the Euphrates to the Nile.

At the same time a message was sent to the Arabs that they should not bet on the Soviet Union anymore; for this is Yeltsin's USSR and he "ordained" that Israel should be given a special treatment because it possesses cash whereas the Arab's are now short of hard currency since the bulk of their wealth has been channelised to the U.S. to cover the Desert Storm Operation that destroyed Iraq. When, however, the Arabs "mildly" protested, Boris Yeltsin directed Pravda to write a lengthy article on the Middle East issue recommending that the Soviet Union should not side with the Arabs.

It is Boris Yeltsin, or probably his Jewish wife, who is in command now in the USSR. And Boris Yeltsin has willed that all defence industry of the Soviet Union should be ready for conversion from military to civilian production to avoid a repetition of the disaster. Now it is said it is Yeltsin and not Gorbachev who is "greater than life".

In this extraordinary step, taken boldly by Yeltsin to rectify the ailing Soviet economy, a suggestion was quietly made to sell the KGB secrets of the Soviet Union to CIA. Many Soviets were over-enthusiastic to the idea; for if Yeltsin is able to fetch a good price for a huge factory of information, the Soviet Union would be with sufficient cash to quickly introduce market economy and wide-ranging economic reforms. More importantly, the USSR will be able to pay its debts now totalling over 68 billion dollars.

Those who favoured selling the secrets of the KGB have a strong case with the following arguments:

I) The KGB does not deserve to exist because of its dirty role in the abortive coup which targeted the new Soviet Revolution headed by Boris Yeltsin.

II) With the end of the cold war and the emergence of a new era of cooperation and coordination between the USSR and the USA, the KGB has become irrelevant.

III) The Soviet Union is experiencing today a new era after banning the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). If the KGB is not liquidated, it secret agents might stage a "real coup" particularly when there are reports which suggest that the KGB was able to smuggle 100 billion dollars of the CPSU outside the Soviet Union.

IV) It is argued that there exists in history a precedence when the former American President Herbert Hoover (1929-33) managed to buy all secret documents of the Czar of Russia before his fall.

V) If the Soviet Union does sell the KGB secrets to the CIA, the Soviet agents worldwide, parrticularly those in Europe and the United States might just do the same for a lesser price and to guarantee their protection. A case was pointed in particular in Eastern Europe where there are still hundreds of KGB spies and agents there with a "treasure of secrets". With the collapse of the socialist regimes, these agents and spies now feel extremely insecure and might be exposed by the new regimes in Eastern Europe which maintain intimate relations and security cooperation with the U.S. and the CIA. Many of these agents are not even motivated by ideology. Even those who were committed to the communist system should have changed their minds with the formal end of communism in the USSR itself. Those KGB agents who are purely professional would certainly ask for a price for whatever information and secrets they acquired while serving with the KGB.

Even a stronger argument is that the U.S. is now in a position to pay the USSR for selling the secrets of the KGB. Now there is a strong trend within the Congress to reduce the military expenditure, closing 50 per cent of U.S. bases and reducing the CIA budget and its global operations in view of the acute economic problem being faced by the United States. Given this trend, the U.S. administration would be more than willing to pay for the secrets of the KGB and assume total control. Such a scenario, if implemented, would also enable the CIA to concentrate on other pressing areas particularly on alleged stealing of U.S. advanced technology by Japan, France, Germany and other European countries. This will also help the CIA to plan its covert operation in the decade ahead with the declared objective of raid on "far-off terrorist hideouts".

For Gary Foster, head of CIA planning and counterintelligence, this will help the reorganisational process of the CIA to avoid duplication and overlap.

Here a difficulty of a serious nature comes in. This one is related to the role of U.S. Jews in the clandestine activities of the KGB in the United States. The American Jews have always acted against the national interests of the U.S. and under directions from the international Zionism they did everything possible to promote the interests of Israel and even the Soviet Union. It is believed that the KGB relied heavily on the American Jews in penetrating very sensitive American institutions and were instrumental in stealing nuclear and military secrets of the U.S. and handing them over to the KGB, not only for money but for political, economic and military influence and sharing of nuclear and military technology which the Zionists needed very badly to build up their industrial and military base in Israel.

The state of Jewish involvement in the KGB covert operations in the U.S. is so serious that prompts some European intelligence agencies to privately say that if the KGB secrets are revealed, the U.S. might either expel the American Jews or declare war against Israel. In this regard the case of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg is cited. The two American Jews were found guilty of leaking the secrets of the nuclear bomb to the Soviet Union and were the only American civilians ever to be executed for espionage. Their appeals were exhausted and their plea for executive clemency was ignored by President Truman and later refused by President Eisenhower. Ultimately they were hanged on June 19, 1953.

Similarly, there are hundreds of American Jews who leaked American nuclear, military, technological and even political secrets to both the KGB and the Mossad. Some of the CIA Jewish agents who were supposed to penetrate the KGB acted as double agents and supplied the KGB with classified American data. Among many examples of this category is the case of Jonathan Jay Pollard who used to carry suitcases of classified U.S. documents to Tel Aviv. There are other case of stealing the secrets of Vector Corp. on cluster bomb technology, the scandal of Terryville Company, the scandal of stealing 342 kilograms of U.S. enriched uranium, the betrayal of Richard Kally in 1985 by shipping 810 krytons (triggering devices in nuclear weapons) to Israel, the peculiar case of Richard Smith etc. If these secrets and hundreds other still concealed operations in which Jews are involved, are unveiled, would international Zionism permit selling KGB secrets to the CIA?

Sri Lanka

Government Denies Supplying Arms to LTTE

BK0310112291 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] The attention of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been drawn to a news item appearing in THE ISLAND of Wednesday, the 2d of October 1991, in which the Indian prime minister, Narasimha Rao, is reported to have said that he considered it wrong that the Sri Lankan Government had given weapons to the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. The government categorically denies and vehemently rejects the malicious allegation made by some vested interests in Sri Lanka that arms were supplied to the LTTE to attack the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] or the Sri Lankan Army. This is evident from the news release issued by the Ministry of Defense on the 23d of September 1991, in which this issue was dealt with.